

## "MUELL" IT OVER



*Channeling maybe-yes, maybe-no Mueller: Speak, Bob, speak!*

In this March 24, 2019, file photo, special counsel Robert Mueller walks past the White House after attending services at St. John's Episcopal Church, in Washington. Associated Press

By **NANCY BENAC**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — See Bob investigate. Read Bob's report. Wait, Bob, what? For nearly two years,

the nation watched and waited as special counsel Robert Mueller investigated President Donald Trump and his campaign for potential collusion with Russia

and obstruction of justice. The release of a redacted version of Mueller's 448-page report last month offered a long-awaited moment of closure for many

— and an utterly unsatisfying cliffhanger for plenty of others. Three weeks of public parsing and analysis have left them wondering just what Mueller was

trying to say and what he really thinks, particularly on the question of obstruction, where the document drew no conclusion.

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## Channeling maybe-yes, maybe-no Mueller: Speak, Bob, speak!

Continued from Front

That uncertainty has given partisans on both sides an opening to frame Mueller's findings to their liking and left many Americans, unlikely to read the full report, scratching their heads about what to believe and whom to trust.

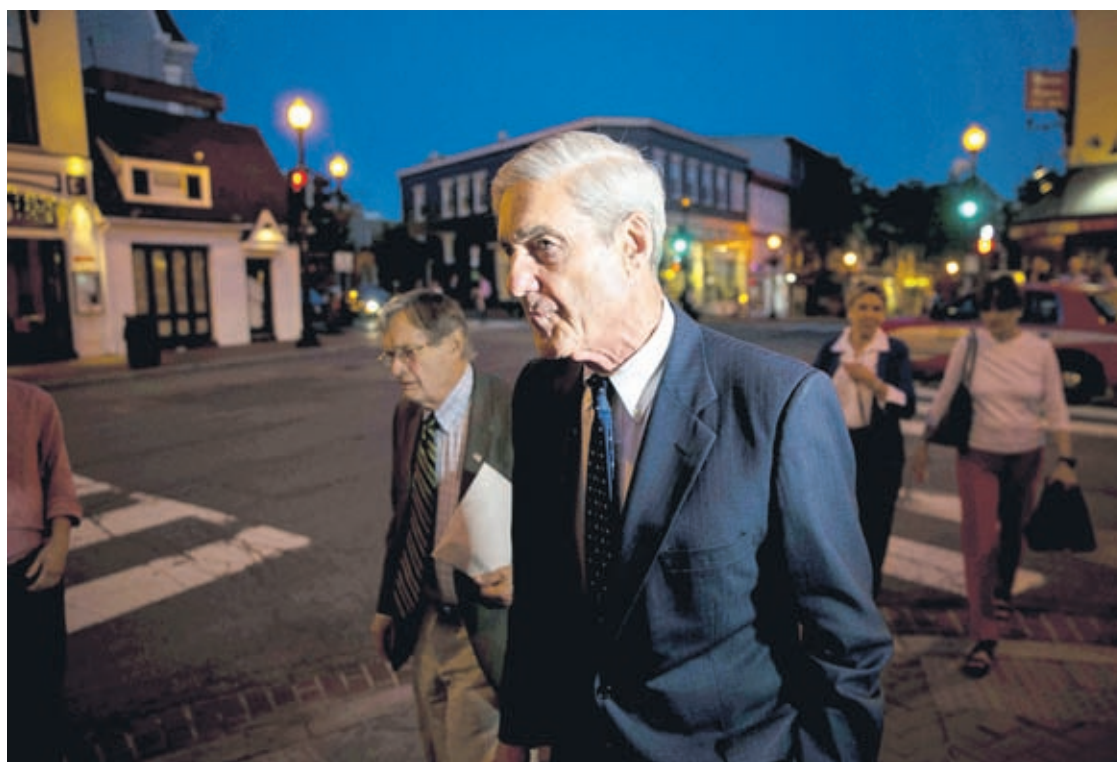
Enough with the printed page, they say, enough with the punditry: Speak, Bob, speak!

Melissa Garcia, a 29-year-old health counselor, pauses outside a restaurant in Quakertown, Pennsylvania, to compare the two-volume Mueller report to the kind of "terms and conditions" legalese that most consumers skip right over. She'd love a "Cliffs Notes version" from Mueller himself.

"I would just ask him to sum it up because he knows it the best. I'd want the shorthand version but the most important details," says Garcia, an independent who supported Hillary Clinton in 2016.

Republican Becky McBreen, a 58-year-old Trump voter from Schuylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, who works at an aluminum company, says she'd like to ask Mueller: "Leaving out the political bias, do you, in your heart of hearts, truly think that Trump colluded with Russia to sabotage Hillary?" (The report did not find a criminal conspiracy between Russia and the Trump campaign.)

Democrat Adam Singer, a 52-year-old e-commerce worker who was running errands in Miami Beach,



In this May 6, 2019, photo, special counsel Robert Mueller departs after having dinner at Martin's Tavern in Georgetown, Monday, May 6, 2019, in Washington.

Florida, says he's eager for Mueller to "get up publicly on television and give his take on the report."

"I don't believe we have been told the whole story," Singer says.

It's not just ordinary Americans who are craving clarity.

Having pored over the report once, Rep. Debbie Dingell, D-Mich., is now on her second reading of it. And she still has questions. "That's why we need him to testify," she said. "I think he owes it to us."

Richard Ben-Veniste, who served as one of the lead prosecutors on the Watergate investigation, says Mueller "probably could have been clearer."

"It would certainly be in the public interest for Robert Mueller to answer questions, clarify and expound

upon his investigation and his report," says Ben-Veniste.

David Kendall represented President Bill Clinton during the Monica Lewinsky investigation and currently represents the Clintons. He goes further in a Washington Post opinion piece and says Mueller made a "massive flinch" in declining to draw a conclusion on obstruction.

Absent a firm answer from the special counsel himself, plenty of others — including Trump — have stepped forward to act as interpreters of the oracle.

In a letter summarizing the report before its release, Attorney General William Barr declared he did not believe the evidence was sufficient to prove that Trump had obstructed justice.

Trump, no fan of the spe-

cial counsel, this past week called Mueller's report "the Bible" and inaccurately claimed it was "totally exonerating."

Hundreds of former federal prosecutors, on the other hand, signed on to an open letter concluding that Mueller's report shows Trump would have been charged with obstruction if he were anyone other than the president.

Jacob Frenkel, a former federal prosecutor, sees a case for impeachment in what he describes as Mueller's "clear and comprehensive report." He puts the blame for any confusion on those engaged in "politics and prejudgment."

Likewise, Democratic Rep. Adam Schiff of California, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, blames Barr for creating

"deliberate confusion" about Mueller's findings by misrepresenting his "very precise" report. Even so, Schiff says he, too, would like to hear directly from Mueller. He did send Barr a letter in March complaining about how Barr had summarized the report's key findings, writing that he had left "public confusion about critical aspects of the results of our investigation." Beyond that, though, all the public has gotten of Mueller in the past few weeks is fleeting glimpses of him exiting a Georgetown tavern, walking into church on Easter Sunday, driving to his office.

Democrats on Capitol Hill are pushing for Mueller, who is still an employee of the Justice Department, to testify before the House Judiciary Committee but that's up in the air. Trump has both said that Mueller shouldn't testify and that it's up to Barr to decide. Barr himself has said he wouldn't object. But hopes that Mueller would testify this coming week appear to have faded as behind-the-scenes talks drag on.

If the Justice Department tries to block Mueller's testimony, Democrats could issue a subpoena to try to compel his appearance.

In the meantime, plenty of people are itching to get a firsthand fill from Mueller.

Without that, "it's almost like going off of hearsay," says Michelle Martin, a 48-year-old physician's assistant from Round Rock, Texas. "You have to have the facts to make an educated opinion." □



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## White House expects China to retaliate over trade tariffs

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. is awaiting retaliation from China over increased tariffs, after talks in Washington ended without a deal on trade, the president's chief economic adviser said on Sunday.

"The expected counter-measures have not yet materialized. We may know more today or even this evening or tomorrow," Larry Kudlow told "Fox News Sunday."

Kudlow also said that President Donald Trump's plan to raise U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods across the board could take months to take effect.

"Call it a couple of months. Call it three months. I don't know. That will take some time and then of course the president's going to have to make the final decision on that," Kudlow said.

The United States raised tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports from 10% to 25% on Friday after American officials accused Beijing of backtracking on commitments made in earlier rounds of negotiations. Kudlow also acknowledged that China doesn't pay the tariffs, in contrast to Trump, who has repeatedly tweeted that China pays the tariffs and in doing so transfers wealth to the United States.

"Both sides will pay," Kudlow said when pressed on the issue. "The Chinese will suffer (economic) losses and so forth with respect to a diminishing export market."

U.S. importers pay tariff charges, though large re-

tailers might be able to force some Chinese suppliers to cut their prices to offset the duties. But academic studies have found that so far U.S. consumers and businesses are bearing the cost of Trump's tariff hikes. Talks in Washington broke off on Friday without a deal, but both sides have indicated that future talks are likely. Kudlow said nothing has been scheduled, but Chinese officials have invited U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin to visit Beijing. Kudlow also said that Trump and China's President, Xi Jinping, may meet in late June at the G20 international conference in Japan.

"We are right where we want to be with China," Trump tweeted on Sunday. "Remember, they broke the deal with us and tried to renegotiate."

On Saturday, Trump tweeted that he thought that "China felt they were being beaten so badly in the recent negotiation that they may as well wait around for the next election, 2020, to see if they could get lucky & have a Democrat win."

Beijing retaliated for previous tariff hikes by raising duties on \$110 billion of American imports. And officials have targeted American companies operating in China by slowing customs clearance and stepping up regulatory scrutiny. Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., told ABC's "This Week" on Sunday that he advised the president to finalize a trade

deal with China soon, "because the longer we're involved in a tariff battle or a trade war, the better chance there is that we could actually enter into a recession because of it."

The two countries are sparring over U.S. allegations that China steals technology and pressures American companies into handing over trade secrets, part of an aggressive campaign to turn Chinese companies into world leaders in robotics, electric cars and other advanced industries. □



Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin, center, and United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, right, speak with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, left, as he departs the Office of the United States Trade Representative in Washington, Friday, May 10, 2019.  
Associated Press



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## Suddenly starless Wisconsin GOP plots rebuild for 2020



In this April 27, 2019, file photo, President Donald Trump, right, accompanied by Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., left, arrives at Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport in Green Bay, Wis.

Associated Press

By **SCOTT BAUER**  
Associated Press

**MADISON, Wis. (AP)** — Republicans determined to deliver Wisconsin for President Donald Trump next year will be doing it with a

party working to rebuild after the departure of its two biggest stars and a rough midterm election that sent it reeling.

The Wisconsin GOP heads into its state convention

that starts Friday with a plan that depends on rebuilding from the ground up after former House Speaker Paul Ryan retired and Gov. Scott Walker was voted out of office.

"After the November 2018 elections it was a combination of shock and a certain level of depression," said Sen. Ron Johnson, the only Republican left in statewide office. Johnson led a post-mortem study of the midterm losses that determined more work needed to be done at the local level to recruit and train both volunteers and candidates. Johnson was to discuss the report at the convention, which has taken the theme "A New Day. A New Party" and will emphasize training and workshops over the

usual political speeches. Johnson said that work will create a "grassroots juggernaut" to reelect Trump. Wisconsin is among a handful of battleground states that could determine the 2020 election.

Trump was the first Republican since Ronald Reagan in 1984 to carry Wisconsin, but he did so by less than 1 percentage point. Reagan was also the last Republican to win the state twice in a row. Barack Obama won big both times he ran for president, but previous Democratic candidates won by less than half a point in 2000 and 2004.

"We can win in this state; we've done it," said Republican Party activist Brian Westrate, an insurance agent from Fall Creek in western Wisconsin. "One bad election cycle doesn't mean our conservative philosophy and ideology is dead. We just, perhaps, got too far away from all being in the same boat rowing in the same direction."

Mark Gaul, a Republican strategist who ran George W. Bush's Wisconsin campaign in 2004, said he thinks Republicans are entering 2020 ready for an "incredibly tight, tough race" with uncertainty about how it will play out.

"The sense is nobody's quite sure what's going to happen next year," Gaul said. To win in 2020, more work needs to be done to organize at the local level, said state party executive director Mark Jefferson. That covers things as rudimentary as making sure yard signs are widely available and distributed and as advanced as using data analytics to target likely voters and get people on the ground to knock on their doors, Jef-

erson said. While Republicans look inward at how to improve, they will have to move forward without two longtime, prominent leaders. For the first time in 20 years, when Republicans gather for their convention neither Walker nor Ryan will be in elected office.

The loss of the governor's office is particularly stinging for Republicans, as Walker was the most prolific fundraiser in the history of Wisconsin politics, bringing in hundreds of millions of dollars for the GOP.

Jefferson said one thing the state party must address is how to spend its money more effectively, even as everyone agrees the Trump campaign intends to make Wisconsin a priority and provide the money necessary to compete.

Democrats, in a nod to Wisconsin's importance in the presidential race, will hold their national convention in Milwaukee in 2020. Their state convention this year is June 1.

Devin Remiker, the Democrats' executive director of political affairs, said Republicans have "talked a big game" about engaging grassroots voters before but failed to follow through. While Republicans were dejected after Walker's narrow defeat in 2018, they have been reenergized by the win last month by conservative Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate Brian Hagedorn.

"As down as people were after November statewide, the Hagedorn win has given us a great amount of hope," said Walker, who will be attending a Sunday prayer breakfast at the convention but not the bulk of the gathering. "To win in 2020 we're going to need that." □

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## Washington to offer first 'public option' insurance in U.S.

By TOM JAMES

The Associated Press

**SEATTLE (AP)** — Washington is set to become the first state to enter the private health insurance market with a universally available public option.

A set of tiered public plans will cover standard services and are expected to be up to 10% cheaper than comparable private insurance, thanks in part to savings from a cap on rates paid to providers. But unlike existing government-managed plans, Washington's public plans are set to be available to all residents regardless of income by 2021.

The Legislature approved the plan last month, and Gov. Jay Inslee is scheduled to sign it into law Monday.

The move thrusts Washington into the national debate over the government's role in health care, with a hybrid model that puts the state to the left of market-only approaches but stops short of a completely public system.

Instead, the state will dictate the terms of the public option plans but hire private insurance companies to administer them, saving the state from having to create a new bureaucracy — and guaranteeing a role for the insurance industry in managing the new public option.

Lawmakers in at least eight other states including Colorado and New Mexico have proposed their own public option measures. But so far none have passed legislation implementing a public option.

Backers acknowledge the rate caps at the heart of the plan risk creating coverage gaps in rural areas. But they hope to persuade doctors to accept lower rates by bringing the state's purchasing power to bear. The savings would be used to sell the plans at a competitive price.

Inslee, who is also running for president, embraced the idea based on early

work by a state legislator and later officially requested the public option bill.

Its sponsor, Seattle Sen. David Frockt, a Democrat, said the hybrid system was a compromise.

"What's important about this plan is that the government is coming in and taking a more aggressive role in regulating the cost drivers of health care," Frockt said.

The core proposition of Washington's plan, dubbed Cascade Care, is that it will save consumers money by capping payments to doctors, hospitals and other health care providers.

The cost cap is central to the program's long-term survival: Set it too high, and there will be no savings to pass along. Set it too low, and the state runs the risk of providers declining the plan, leaving it to whither as consumers seek alternatives that provide more choice, said Jennifer Tolbert, director of the Kaiser Foundation's state health care analysis program.

The question is especially critical in Washington's rural counties, many of which were already hit hardest by health care cost increases. To attract providers, Washington lawmakers chose a relatively high figure to start: The plan caps pay-outs at 160 percent of federal Medicare rates.

That's more than other states have proposed. In New Mexico, lawmakers considered using Medicaid rates, among the lowest paid to doctors and hospitals by any insurance plan. Lobbying firm Manatt estimated that could have translated into cost savings for consumers of more than 20% compared with similar private plans on the individual market.

By comparison, Washington's higher pay rate for doctors is estimated to save participants only 5 to 10%, according to Jason McGill, Inslee's senior policy adviser on health.



In this April 29, 2019, file photo, Gov. Jay Inslee, surrounded by Democratic lawmakers from the Senate and House, talks to the media following the Washington Legislature adjourning its 105-day legislative session in Olympia, Wash.

Associated Press

But even at the higher rate, the plan risks leaving coverage gaps in the least-populated counties, said Democratic Rep. Eileen Cody, an early architect of the plan who chairs the House Health Care and Wellness committee.

The state has already had problems guaranteeing private coverage in those areas. Two counties were recently at risk of having no insurers offering individual plans, and others have only a single hospital or hospital network, allowing providers to drive up costs.

The result has been rural areas bucking the state's broader trend of moderate cost increases: A quarter of Washington counties, mostly rural, have seen triple-digit increases in the cost of premiums for a benchmark bronze-level plan in the last year alone, with some rising by as much as three times the increase seen in King County, home of Seattle, according to data from the Kaiser Foundation.

Another unique aspect of Washington's plan is its hybrid

management model. Despite its name, the public option won't be provided by the state itself, and state employees won't deal directly with patients.

Instead, the measure directs state health care authorities to hire one or more private insurance companies: The state will determine the broad outlines of the public plans, but private companies will handle day-to-day administration, including enrolling patients and paying out claims.

"It's an attempt to keep the insurance companies in the game," said Aaron Katz, a University of Washington professor who teaches health policy and has studied U.S. health care markets.

Like earlier decisions to have private companies administer parts of the Medicare and Medicaid systems in some states, Washington's hybrid model tries to preserve some competition while fixing problems like stability and coverage gaps, Katz said. □

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## More 'heartbeat' abortion bans advancing in South, Midwest

By **RUSS BYNUM**  
**Associated Press**

If a new Mississippi law survives a court challenge, it will be nearly impossible for most pregnant women to get an abortion there.

Or, potentially, in neighboring Louisiana. Or Alabama. Or Georgia.

The Louisiana legislature is halfway toward passing a law — like the ones enacted in Mississippi and Georgia — that will ban abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected, about six weeks into a pregnancy and before many women know they're pregnant. Alabama is on the cusp of approving an even more restrictive bill.

State governments are on a course to virtually eliminate abortion access in large chunks of the Deep South and Midwest. Ohio and Kentucky also have passed heartbeat laws; Missouri's Republican-controlled legislature is considering one.

Their hope is that a more conservative U.S. Supreme Court will approve, spelling the end of the constitutional right to abortion.

"For pro-life folks, these are huge victories," said Sue Liebel, state director for the Susan B. Anthony List, an anti-abortion advocacy group. "And I think they're indicative of the momentum and excitement and the hope that's happening with changes in the Supreme Court and having such a pro-life president." For abortion rights supporters, meanwhile, the trend is ominous. Said Diane Derzis, owner of Mississippi's sole abortion clinic, the Jackson Women's Health Organization: "I think it's certainly more dire than it ever has been. They smell blood and that's why they're doing this."

Already, Mississippi man-

dates a 24-hour wait between an in-person consultation. That means women must make at least two trips to her clinic, often traveling

that state's heartbeat ban after the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit on behalf of the clinic in Louisville. Similar legal action is ex-

see people from North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, South Carolina — all over the region," said Dr. Lisa Haddad, the Atlanta

productive Rights, which also has filed suit over Mississippi's ban. "But if they were allowed to go into force, they would have devastating consequences for the residents of all of these states."

If heartbeat bans are upheld, many women who are poor and have limited means to travel would have few options other than to try to terminate their own pregnancies, Haddad said, possibly using abortion drugs purchased online. Others would have to drive or fly across multiple states, said Elizabeth Nash, a state policy analyst for the Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights.

"People would go to Florida, people would continue to go to Memphis," Nash said. "How many states do you have to cross before you can access abortion services? It exacerbates all the issues we've already seen around taking time off from work and having the money to travel."

Proposed heartbeat bans failed to pass this year in several Republican-led states, including Texas. There, GOP lawmakers lost ground to Democrats in the 2018 elections, and some abortion foes were wary after courts struck down prior abortion restrictions in the state. Such efforts also fell short in Florida, South Carolina, Tennessee and West Virginia. Alabama lawmakers postponed until next week a vote on a proposal that would make performing nearly all abortions a felony. The measure has passed the state House, and the Senate suspended debate Thursday amid a heated dispute over whether exemptions for rape and incest should be stripped from the bill. □



In this May 7, 2019, file photo, Georgia's Republican Gov. Brian Kemp, center, signs legislation in Atlanta, banning abortions once a fetal heartbeat can be detected, which can be as early as six weeks before many women know they're pregnant.

**Associated Press**

long distances.

Other states have passed similar, incremental laws restricting abortion in recent years, and aside from Mississippi, five states have just one clinic — Kentucky, Missouri, North and South Dakota, and West Virginia. But the latest efforts to bar the procedure represent the largest assault on abortion rights in decades.

Lawmakers sponsoring the bans have made it clear their goal is to spark court challenges in hopes of ultimately overturning the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion.

Those challenges have begun. Derzis' attorneys are scheduled to go before a judge on May 21, seeking to prevent Mississippi's heartbeat law from taking effect July 1.

A judge in Kentucky blocked enforcement of

pected before bans can take effect in Ohio and Georgia, where Republican Gov. Brian Kemp signed the latest heartbeat bill into law Tuesday. Kemp said he welcomed the fight, vowing: "We will not back down."

Georgia's ban doesn't take effect until Jan. 1. But the impact was immediate.

An abortion clinic operated by The Women's Centers in Atlanta began receiving anxious calls from patients soon after Kemp signed the law. Many callers had plans to travel from outside the state for abortions. Georgia's heartbeat ban would have a wider impact because the state has 17 abortion clinics — more than the combined total in the other four Southern states that have passed or are considering bans.

"On a typical day we will

clinic's medical director. "And my thought is we're not going to see those people coming here because they assume it's already illegal in Georgia."

Dr. Ernest Marshall, co-founder of Kentucky's last remaining abortion clinic in Louisville, said in an email that banning abortions before most women know they're pregnant would "have a disproportionate impact on poor women and communities of color throughout the South." Advocates for abortion rights expect judges to halt enforcement of any new bans while lawsuits work their way through the courts. That could take years.

"These laws are blatantly unconstitutional," said Elisabeth Smith, chief counsel for state policy and advocacy for the Center for Re-



## Prosecutor: Dogs detected decomposition in missing girl case



This undated photo released by the Houston Police Department shows Maleah Davis.

By JUAN A. LOZANO  
Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Trained dogs detected the scent of human decomposition in the vehicle of a man arrested in connection with the disappearance of a 4-year-old Texas girl, according to a prosecutor. Derion Vence, 26, remained jailed Sunday on a \$1 million bond after being arrested a day earlier on a charge of tampering evidence, specifically a human corpse. His next court appearance is set for Monday. Houston police said investigators have not found Maleah Davis and the investigation is continuing. Authorities have declined to say whether they believe Vence killed Maleah. But prosecutors said in court documents filed Saturday that Vence could face additional charges, including murder.

The investigation began after Vence told police that men in a truck on May 4 had abducted him, Maleah and his 2-year-old son a day earlier, but had freed him and the boy. Vence told investigators he was left in the Houston suburb of Sugar Land and walked to a hospital, where he reported the girl's abduction. Sugar Land police, who initially interviewed him, said

his story kept changing and didn't add up.

Vence, who had lived with Maleah and her mother, reported that his silver Nissan Altima was taken in the abduction, but surveillance video showed that vehicle was used to drop Vence off at the hospital. Police found the car Thursday.

Dogs trained to find cadavers reacted to the trunk of the car, Pat Stayton, a prosecutor with the Harris County District Attorney's Office, said at Vence's probable cause court hearing Saturday night. Surveillance video from a neighbor showed Vence carrying a large, blue laundry basket with a large trash bag from his apartment on May 3, Stayton said.

Vence returned three minutes later without the basket and later he was seen leaving the apartment with cleaning supplies, including bleach. In the silver Nissan, police found a laundry basket that looked like the one Vence took out of his apartment, Stayton said. "Both of the dogs reacted to the trunk of the silver Nissan that the defendant had driven and that the blue laundry basket was recovered from, indicating that the dogs were responding to the scent of human decomposition in the vehicle," Stayton said.

Investigators also found blood at the apartment, both in the hallway leading to the bathroom and on surfaces inside the bathroom, Stayton said. At Saturday night's hearing, Vence said he planned to hire a defense attorney. Rodney Brown, an attorney appointed to represent

Vence only for Saturday's hearing, had asked a magistrate judge to set bond at \$5,000, saying Vence was a low flight risk and had lived in Houston most of his life. Stayton argued that Vence was a flight risk and there was "evidence of deception on the part of the defendant with regard to information he gave to

police." Police have described Vence as Maleah's stepfather, but Maleah's mother, Brittany Bowens, said through a spokesman that Vence is her former fiancé. Quanell X, a local civil rights activist who spoke to reporters on Bowens' behalf on Friday, also said that Vence had abused Maleah. □

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## Australian prime minister bares self in campaign launch

By **ROD McGUIRK**  
Associated Press

**CANBERRA, Australia (AP)**

— Australia's prime minister on Sunday officially launched his conservative coalition's campaign less than a week before an election in an extraordinarily personal presentation.

Scott Morrison is his government's third prime minister in the administration's six years in office and still remains relatively unknown to many Australians, who he is asking for a third three-year term when they vote on Saturday next week.

The coalition's launch in the city of Melbourne at a convention center included recorded interviews with Morrison family members that covered his wife Jenny's diagnosis with endometriosis, their 14-year failed battle to conceive through IVF before having their two daughters naturally, and Jenny Morrison's brother's struggle with multiple sclerosis.

Morrison, a policeman's son, also spoke of his modest upbringing in Sydney



**Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison speaks during the launch of his Liberal Party campaign at the Melbourne Convention Centre in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, May 12, 2019.**

Associated Press

and sharing a bedroom until he was in high school with an older brother who was studying at university.

"Life's about what you contribute, not what you accumulate. That's what mum and dad have taught me," Morrison told a gathering of government ministers and supporters of his Liberal Party.

Morrison was joined on the stage by his mother Marion Morrison, his wife and daughters Abbey, 11, and

Lily, 9. He said his father John Morrison was "too frail" to attend. Morrison gave his mother and wife bouquets of flowers to acknowledge Mother's Day in Australia.

Morrison also outlined government policies including support for first-home buyers to help them enter the housing market.

The government argues that the center-left opposition Labor Party's policy of reducing tax breaks for

landlords would steepen a current downturn in house prices in major cities.

Morrison described the election as a choice between him and opposition leader Bill Shorten as prime minister.

"The choice between a government that knows how to manage money, has returned the budget to surplus and will now pay down debt," Morrison said. "Or Bill Shorten and Labor, whose reckless spending

and higher taxes will put all of that risk at the worst possible time."

The government in April outlined an economic plan that would balance the books in the next fiscal year for the first time in 12 years. Labor has promised to deliver bigger budget surpluses by reducing tax breaks for landlords and some shareholders.

The bitter divisions within the Liberal Party that thrust Morrison into power in August last year were still evident at the launch on Sunday.

None of the three surviving former Liberal prime ministers attended. John Howard is Australia's second-longest serving prime minister who spent 11 years in office until his government was defeated at elections in 2007. Tony Abbott spent three years in office before he was dumped by party colleagues in 2015 in the face of dismal opinion polling. He was replaced by Malcolm Turnbull, who was similarly dumped by colleagues last year. □



**United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, right, gestures as he talks with New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern at Government House in Auckland, New Zealand, Sunday, May 12, 2019.**

Associated Press

## UN leader arrives in New Zealand on climate change trip

By **NICK PERRY**  
Associated Press

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand**

**(AP)** — U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said Sunday that the political will to fight climate change seems to be fading at the same time as things are getting worse for those feeling the effects.

Guterres made the comments after arriving in New Zealand, where he spoke

to media alongside Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern in Auckland.

Guterres plans to spend three days in New Zealand as part of a trip to the South Pacific to highlight the problems of climate change.

In Christchurch, he will also meet with Muslim leaders following the March 15 slaughter of 51 worshippers by a gunman who at-

tacked two mosques during Friday prayers. He said he admired the solidarity New Zealand showed after the attack, and praised Ardern for helping implement new gun control laws and for urging other world leaders and tech companies to find a way to prevent acts of extremism from being shown online, after the gunman livestreamed his attack on Facebook. □



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## Pope gives church 19 new priests in Vatican ceremony

By FRANCES D'EMILIO

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) —

Pope Francis has given the church 19 new priests, ordaining the men in an elaborate ceremony Sunday in St. Peter's Basilica, as the credibility of the Vatican and many of its clergy is threatened by widespread scandals of pedophile priests and systematic efforts at cover-ups.

Fifteen of the seminarians ordained by Francis are Italian; the others are from Croatia, Peru, Haiti and Japan. The seminarians' ages range from mid-20s to 46.

Wearing white robes, the seminarians stood in three rows before the central altar after replying, "Here I am," as their names were called one by one. Francis, reciting a ritual formula, asked if they were worthy to become priests. Later in the ceremony, the seminarians prostrated themselves in a sign of obedience to church authority and to God, on a carpet in front of the altar.



Newly ordained priests pray during a ceremony led by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, Sunday, May 12, 2019.

During his homily, Francis instructed them to never "tire of being merciful" toward the faithful who confess sins. "Aware of having been chosen among men and appointed in their favor to attend to the things of God, carry out in joy and charity,

with sincerity, the priestly work of Christ, solely intent on pleasing God and not yourselves," Francis said. Each seminarian knelt before the pope and held out his hands, which Francis rubbed with holy oil. Francis urged the men to

work toward "uniting the faithful in one unique family." But that family of the world's more than 1.2 billion Catholics has been badly wounded and disoriented by decades of revelations that men who were ordained as priests, including

some who later became bishops and cardinals, sexually abused children or were involved in cover-ups to avoid staining the church's reputation. Francis made no mention of the scandals or of his recent efforts aimed at preventing any more such harm, encouraging accountability by bishops and others in church authority and repairing the reputation of the Vatican and the papacy. Last week, the pope issued a church law that requires all priests and nuns to report sexual abuse by clergy as well as cover-ups by their superiors to church authorities.

While appreciated by those who suffered abuse and those advocating for them as a significant step in handling the problem, the law stopped short of requiring such crimes to be reported to police and instead left that policing in the hands of bishops, whose ranks include those who botched the handling of abuse cases for decades. □

Associated Press

## Opposition calls for nationwide protests of Albanian govt

By LLAZAR SEMINI

Associated Press

TIRANA, Albania (AP) —

Albania's center-right opposition parties kept demonstrations calling for the resignation of the left-wing government going Sunday after some protesters and police clashed in the capital of Tirana the night before. Leaders of the country's Democratic Party-led opposition decided to reconvene to object to the arrest of a senior party official during Saturday's anti-government protest. They are trying to organize nationwide rallies for Monday. "Barbarous violence



A protestor holds stones as police block a road during clashes in Tirana, Saturday, May 11, 2019.

Associated Press

against hundreds of protesters ... will get tomorrow the proportional response

from the united and determined people," Democratic Party leader Lulzim Basha

told hundreds of supporters in front of the Tirana city police department.

The opposition accuses the Cabinet of Socialist Prime Minister Edi Rama of being corrupt and linked to organized crime, which the government denies.

Rama denounced the behavior of protesters who showered police officers and the national government building with Molotov cocktails, firecrackers and hard objects on Saturday and said "Albania is damaged."

Tirana police said Sunday 50 people were arrested for acts against police officers

and public buildings, while 31 others were detained and later released.

Rama backed the actions of police during Saturday clashes except for "two-three seconds of an incident when two police officers used the baton."

At a news conference Sunday, the prime minister brought up a 2011 rally where National Guard officers deployed by the Democratic Party-led government shot and killed four supporters of Ramas' Socialist Party, which was in opposition at the time.

"We are not them," he said. □



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## UAE says 4 ships targeted by 'sabotage' off its coast

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — The United Arab Emirates said Sunday that four commercial ships off its eastern coast "were subjected to sabotage operations," just hours after Iranian and Lebanese media outlets aired false reports of explosions at a nearby Emirati port.

Emirati officials declined to elaborate on the nature of the sabotage or say who might have been responsible. However, the reported incident comes as the U.S. has warned ships that "Iran or its proxies" could be targeting maritime traffic in the region, and as America is deploying an aircraft carrier and B-52 bombers to the Persian Gulf to counter alleged threats from Tehran.

Tensions have risen in the year since President Donald Trump withdrew the United States from the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers, restoring American sanctions that have pushed Iran's economy into crisis. Last week, Iran warned it would begin



In this May 30, 2012, file photo, fishermen cross the sea waters off Fujairah, United Arab Emirates, near the Strait of Hormuz.

enriching uranium at higher levels in 60 days if world powers failed to negotiate new terms for the deal.

The statement from the UAE's Foreign Ministry put the ships near the country's territorial waters in the Gulf of Oman, east of the port of Fujairah. It said it was investigating the incident "in cooperation with local and international bodies." It

said there were "no injuries or fatalities on board the vessels" and "no spillage of harmful chemicals or fuel." The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, which oversees the region, did not immediately offer comment on the incident. Emirati officials declined to elaborate while their investigation is ongoing.

Earlier Sunday, Lebanon's pro-Iran satellite channel Al-

Mayadeen, quoting "Gulf sources," falsely reported that a series of explosions had struck Fujairah's port. State and semi-official media in Iran picked up the report from Al-Mayadeen, which later published the names of vessels it claimed were involved in the incident. The Associated Press, after speaking to Emirati officials and local witnesses,

found the report about explosions at the port to be unsubstantiated.

Fujairah's port is located about 140 kilometers (85 miles) from the Strait of Hormuz, through which a third of all oil at sea is traded. The facility handles oil for bunkering and shipping, as well as general and bulk cargo. It is seen as strategically located, serving shipping routes in the Persian Gulf, the Indian subcontinent and Africa.

The reported sabotage incident comes after the U.S. Maritime Administration warned Thursday that Iran could target commercial sea traffic.

"Since early May, there is an increased possibility that Iran and/or its regional proxies could take action against U.S. and partner interests, including oil production infrastructure, after recently threatening to close the Strait of Hormuz," the warning read. "Iran or its proxies could respond by targeting commercial vessels, including oil tankers, or U.S. military vessels in the Red Sea, Bab-el-Mandeb Strait, or the Persian Gulf." □

## Iranian media say reformist magazine closed by authorities

Associated Press

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)** — Iranian authorities shut down a reformist magazine that had urged negotiations with the United States, local media reported Sunday.

The weekly magazine Seda was handed a suspension order Saturday by a court in Tehran, the reformist newspaper Arman reported.

Seda's most recent front page had shown a U.S. aircraft carrier fleet and the caption "At the crossroads between war and peace." The magazine called for "high-level engagement"



The front cover of the May 11, 2019 edition of the weekly reformist magazine, Seda, center right, is on display at a news stand in downtown Tehran, Iran, May 12, 2019.

Associated Press

between the U.S. and Iran, warning that closing the strategic Strait of Hormuz, an occasional Iranian threat, would lead to "widespread war."

A third of all oil traded by sea passes through the strait, which lies at the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf. Recent U.S. military deployments to the Persian Gulf, including an aircraft carrier strike group, have raised tensions with Iran. Tehran has also begun setting its own deadlines over its unraveling nuclear deal that President Donald

Trump pulled America out of a year ago.

The hard-line Iranian newspaper Kayhan criticized Seda's reporting as parroting the "voice of Trump through the mouths of reformists." Also Sunday, Iran's parliament held a closed session to discuss recent developments in the Persian Gulf, state TV reported. The head of the elite Revolutionary Guard, Gen. Hossein Salami, spoke about the increased U.S. military presence, but the broadcast did not give specific details. □





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# Duterte allies seek to dominate Philippine midterm polls

By JIM GOMEZ  
Associated Press

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)** — Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's name is not on the ballot, but Monday's midterm elections are seen as a crucial referendum on his rise to power with a brutal crackdown on illegal drugs, unorthodox style and contentious embrace of China.

Nearly 62 million Filipinos have registered to choose among 43,500 candidates vying for about 18,000 congressional and local posts in one of Asia's most ram-bunctious democracies.

The most crucial race is for 12 seats in the 24-member Senate, which Duterte wants to fill with allies to bolster his legislative agenda. That includes the return of the death penalty, lowering the age for criminal liability of child offenders and revising the country's 1987 constitution primarily to allow a shift to a federal form of government, a proposal some critics fear may be a cover to remove term limits.

Opposition aspirants consider the Senate the last bastion of checks and balances given the solid dominance of Duterte's loyalists in the lower House of Representatives. Last year, op-



In this Friday, May 10, 2019, photo, activists are flashed on a screen as opposition senatorial candidate Florin Hilbay addresses them during their rally at the People Power Monument, three days before the May 13 mid-term elections in suburban Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines.

Associated Press

position senators moved to block proposed bills they feared would undermine civil liberties.

Duterte's politics and key programs, including his drive against illegal drugs that has left more than 5,200 mostly urban poor suspects dead, have been scrutinized on the campaign trail and defended by close allies running for the Senate, led by his former national Police Chief Ronald dela Rosa, who first

enforced the crackdown when the president took office in mid-2016.

Aside from the drug killings, Duterte's gutter language and what nationalists say is a policy of appeasement toward China that may undermine Philippine territorial claims in the South China Sea, have also been hounded by protests and criticism.

"This is very much a referendum on his three years of very disruptive yet very

popular presidency," Manila-based analyst Richard Heydarian said. "Are we going to affirm or are we going to reject the 2016 elections? Was that an aberration and historical accident that we have to fix, or is this actually the beginning of the kind of new era or new normal?"

A May 3-6 survey by independent pollster Pulse Asia showed 11 of Duterte-backed senatorial candidates and four other aspirants in the winning circle, including only one from the opposition. The survey of 1,800 respondents had a margin of error of plus or minus 2.3 percentage points. Duterte himself remains hugely popular, topping ratings surveys with about 70 percent approval. □

## South Africa chief vows to purge ANC of 'deviant tendencies'

Associated Press

**JOHANNESBURG (AP)** — South Africa's president is vowing to purge his party of "bad and deviant tendencies" as he prepares to appoint a new Cabinet following a victory in national elections.

The 57% share of the vote was the worst-ever election

showing for the African National Congress, which has ruled since the apartheid system of racial discrimination ended 25 years ago. Low voter turnout also reflected the frustration of many South Africans after corruption scandals around the ANC that led former president Jacob

Zuma to resign last year under party pressure. Current President Cyril Ramaphosa in his first speech to supporters since the election win said Sunday he will not appoint leaders who work "to fill their own pockets." Ramaphosa is believed to be facing a revolt within the party by Zuma allies. □

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## Maduro's foes fill embassies in Venezuela as crisis deepens

By JOSHUA GOODMAN

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— From the lush tropical garden of the Chilean ambassador's residence, Venezuelan opposition leader Freddy Guevara takes a much-anticipated call from a foreign diplomat and asks him to protect a fellow lawmaker fleeing President Nicolás Maduro's latest crackdown.

"Gracias, Gracias ambasadador. In the name of all of us," said Guevara speaking into his cellphone as he sits down for a rare interview inside the diplomatic compound that has been his uneasy and isolating home the past 18 months.

"You probably think this was all staged for you, right?" he chuckles while tapping out a text message sharing the good news to someone in his party. "But the last few days have all been like this."

As Venezuela's crisis deepens, more and more government opponents are on the run, facing arrest for their role in a failed military uprising last week when opposition leader Juan Guaidó briefly took control of a highway with a small cadre of troops seeking to topple Maduro.

But instead of going into exile, or to jail as another silenced martyr of the movement to oust Maduro, many dissidents are pounding on the doors of foreign embassies in a throwback to the dark days of the 1970s, when far bloodier military dictatorships in South America hunted down their opponents.

In this Saturday, May 11, 2019 photo, Venezuelan opposition leader Freddy Guevara, exiled at the Chilean ambassador's residence speaks by phone prior a interview with the Associated Press, in Caracas, Venezuela.

In the past 10 days, as Maduro has mopped up from the uprising, three lawmakers have taken refuge in the ambassadorial residences of Italy and Argentina, while opposition leader Leopoldo López, who defied house arrest to partake in the putsch, is now living with his family in the Spanish ambassador's residence. Others are hiding out in undisclosed missions while 18 national guardsmen who answered Guaidó's call to rebel are holed up in Panama's embassy.

None have requested asylum, even though countries in Latin America have a tradition of granting such status to political outcasts showing up at their diplo-

matic missions, allowing them to enter instead as "guests" in a sort of limbo waiting for Maduro to fall. For Guevara, that's allowed him to remain politically active, holding frequent strategy sessions with Guaidó and other members of their Popular Will party.

"I'm like the ghost in a haunted house: I can't leave but if you want to come over you can talk to me," he says.

Guevara's decision to seek refuge inside the ambassador's residence was part necessity, part political strategy.

The 33-year-old cut his political teeth during student protests against Hugo Chavez a decade ago and quickly rose through

the opposition's ranks after several of its stalwarts were jailed or exiled. As vice president of the opposition-controlled congress, he was one of the leaders of anti-Maduro protests in 2017 that led to more than 130 deaths. When the government finally quelled the unrest, Guevara was high on the list of organizers they went after.

He appealed for protection from Chile in the hope that it would drive home to Venezuela's neighbors, many of whom were reluctant to confront Maduro but now recognize Guaidó as the country's rightful leader, the spillover risks from a spiraling political and economic crisis.

"Every lawmaker living in-

side an embassy is a permanent reminder for that country, its media and its people that Nicolás Maduro isn't just a problem for Venezuelans," said Guevara. "Imagine if Nancy Pelosi had to run to an embassy because President Trump wanted to send her to prison, or the head of congress in France had to hide inside the Spanish embassy because of Macron." He was welcomed with open arms by Chile's then-ambassador, Pedro Ramirez, who had already taken in Roberto Enriquez, president of the conservative COPEI party. Two years later, Enriquez is still living in the compound.

At one point, Ramirez was also sheltering five judges whose appointment to the high court by congress was disallowed by Maduro. The jurists, who did request asylum, later abandoned the residence and slipped across the border after Maduro's government denied them safe passage into exile.

For Ramirez, who had served as a Cabinet minister in the socialist government of Salvador Allende, it was an opportunity to return a favor: When Allende was overthrown in 1973, Ramirez was arrested and spent three years in jail before being exiled to Venezuela, which took in tens of thousands of Chileans following the coup. Ramirez considered himself an admirer of Chavez but quickly came to view his successor Maduro as a dictator after returning to Venezuela as ambassador in 2014. □



## LOCAL



## Through the eyes of

Photography is a fascinating art. The photographer takes you into her or his world and makes you look at a certain topic through her or his eyes. The reflection of emotions that counted for that moment touch your senses and many times a picture tells a story without speaking. Aruba has talented photographers, young, eager, creative and each with their own, particular style. Aruba Today presents to you three of these amazing personalities and a sip of their work.

### Jonathan Petit



By Jonathan Petit

The jolly, always polite Jonathan Petit is a seen photographer on the island. He seems to be everywhere and he is a flexible person to work with. "I am 24 years old and a wedding & fashion photographer based on the island of Aruba. My style is very much concept driven as I work closely with my clients to understand their vision and help them find unique locations that reflect their sentiments. Working on a small island never limited my creativity." - [www.instagram.com/callmepetit](http://www.instagram.com/callmepetit)



By Anuar Habibe. Picture was taken in the district of Rancho in Oranjestad and is part of the series 'Life on the streets'.

### Anuar Habibe

Anuar Habibe is a stoked about culture. Besides his photography he is the founder of Culturaruba, a platform for culture and art. Seven years ago he dived into the world of photography and was even more passionate about this art of expression after reading books related to photography. "I actually learned more than how to take pictures. Visual design, laws of perceptual organization and the theory of colors as well as their influence on emotions." His style is -in his own words- story telling, documentary and street photography. "Those are all related to each other, I capture life moments, life that is happening now while I am working, walking, feeling and moving. My pictures are connected to psychology and sociology. They are about people and their behaviors, our society and life." To summarize you could say that he shows you 'Art in everyday life'. "I show what I feel and often people tell me their interpretation which is a big compliment to me as that means it touched them." - [www.instagram.com/anhhabibe](http://www.instagram.com/anhhabibe)

### Michael-Anthony Fowler

A multit talented photographer as Michael-Anthony Fowler shoots weddings and families, but also made an impressive series of drug/alcohol addicts in the streets of Aruba. He has a creative mind with always a social twist. His style is very natural and pure.

"I have been working as a wedding, couple & family photographer for 2 years now, but this year I changed my style and focus to a more natural and environmental feel. Tourists in general wish to see and feel Aruba in their pictures and that often means sunset, beach and happiness. My shoots consists of posed and more natural pictures. When I shoot I encourage my clients to be as silly and playful as possible as these turn into the best candid shots in my opinion." - [www.instagram.com/mfowler\\_photography](http://www.instagram.com/mfowler_photography)



By Michael-Anthony Fowler



## Goodwill & Emerald Ambassadors at Costa Linda Beach Resort

**EAGLE BEACH** — Recently, Marouska Heyliger had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Goodwill Ambassador and Emerald Ambassador. The Goodwill Ambassador is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba 20 years or more consecutively. The Emerald Ambassador is presented to guests who visit Aruba 35 years or more consecutively.

The honorees were **Irene Cappello and Andrea Connolly** from **Fairfield, Connecticut** together with **John and Linda Mallen** from **Freehold, New Jersey**.



Mrs. Irene Cappello and her late husband first started coming to Aruba since 1979, and has been visiting the island twice a year and sometimes even more. Throughout the years, they participated in many ac-

tivities the island offered which therefore they developed many lasting friendships with the locals. Mrs. Cappello and her late husband would even act as surrogate parents to several students from Aruba

who attended college in the U.S. Mrs. Cappello is so grateful that she had the opportunity to see our island grow and prosper to what it is today. Upon asking "Why Aruba?" She stated: "After having sur-

vived two cancers, I was determined to visit the island thoroughly". Mrs. Cappello has appointed Aruba as her 'home away from home and her best option in recovery'.

Mr and Mrs. Mallen stated while on vacation, they enjoy the gastronomic variety that Aruba offers as well as different on-island activities, "Visiting Baby Beach and Eagle Beach is a must!" But the main reasons they keep coming to Aruba is the overall beauty of the island and the hospitality they receive from the locals.

From the Aruba Tourism Authority, Visitor Care Liaison Ms. Marouska Heyliger and Intern Communications Ms. Sharicia Hasham together with representatives of the Costa Linda Beach Resort; Resort Manager Mr. Luigi Herencia, Relations Manager Mrs. Miriam Rodriguez and Front Office Manager Mrs. Lina Asaytuno, a special Goodwill Ambassador Award and Emerald Ambassador Award was presented to certificate the honorees. They were acknowledged for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination. □

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Owner of the store, Karin van der Vaart, knows the brand from the inside out as she has been BrasilSul's representative for



many years. As a young girl Karin was always active and has performed as a ballet dancer, tennis player, synchronized swimmer and aerobics instructor. She knows how important it is to wear sport outfits that are comfortable but also fashionable. The time where an old T-shirt was yet enough to do your sports are over, you feel as great in a BrasilSul outfit like a queen with her crown! □



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## Aruba Tourism Authority honor loyal visitors on the island



Recently, Darline de Cuba had the great pleasure to honor loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors and Distinguished Visitors at their home away from home.

The honored were:

**Glenn & Lori Andrews** resident of MA

**Michael & Denise Stachera** resident of CT

**Gary & Judy Morvan** resi-

**dent of Massachusetts**  
**Jared Rubenstein & Luther**  
**Creek** resident of New York

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Ms. Darline de Cuba thanked them for choos-

ing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years together with Mr. Francis Ridderstap and Brisley Flanegin & Zef, Jennifer.

Visitors stated that the main reasons for returning to Aruba with a nice and memorable history: They loved the weather, people of Aruba, and the Sunset. ☐







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Marinelda Cartaya, Sales Manager, elaborates on the construction phase of this unique project. "We started about a year ago with the construction and we are super happy to say that we are on schedule. All the divisions of the different condominiums are done, so you can actually see the interior space in each unit." Besides the divisions the floor tiles of the condominiums are being laid as well. "By just looking at the materials you can really imagine how the end result will be. We can also show a model of the kitchens we use. You get the perfect picture", Marinelda continues. The 7th floor is where the gym with amazing ocean views will rise and on the other end the only and mind-blowing 5-BR Pent House is under construction. The roofs are currently being installed on this floor and floor 6 while the deep foundations for the pool level have been completed. "That was a huge job as the foundations required piling 26 feet deep and there is only one machine for this type of job in the region. We had to bring it in to execute this work. Well, we really want the wow factor of the infinity pool overlooking the harbor, so we needed to do whatever it takes", she laughs.



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# Hotel Hustle

Column by: Shanella Pantophlet

## Left Behind

**ORANJESTAD —** One of my biggest fears when on vacation is leaving something behind in a hotel or wherever I'm staying and not noticing until I'm on the plane or already home. The day before check out and right up to the minute I leave I'm constantly checking and rechecking the room for anything. The one time I didn't do it, I lost one sock in the bed sheets in London.

Losing stuff or leaving stuff behind is probably one of the most common occurrences in hotels however. We like most resorts have a full lost and found policy for a range of items from clothes, to jewelry and other things. The most commonly left behind items are a few pieces of clothing. Although there were some guests who left quite a bit of clothing, to the point I told the Executive Assistant that they probably left them to save on overweight bag fees. A theory that will be proven correct if they claim the clothes on their next visit.



While clothes are the standard we have also had other non-standard items behind, most are tame things such as a stuffed animal, fishing rods and chargers or charger wires. Of course there are always times where more risqué things are either found or a guest calls to ask if we could have a look to see if they've left them behind. The most memorable of these being adult entertainment devices, which the guest wanted shipped back. Taking those items to the post office and having to explain exactly what they were to the agent's was an experience in professionalism on all sides to keep serious faces.

Another popular item that's usually left behind in rooms are illegal substances. As a hotel, we do all we can to discourage the use of those sorts of paraphernalia on property, but know people are on vacation and will use if they are so inclined. In the instances when drugs are found in the room another set of procedures have to be followed including how it is reported and turned in. Usually the quantities housekeepers encounter are of the personal use amount and thus do not need to be reported to the police.

However every now and again there are a few surprises in the form of shopping bags with a mixture of both legal and illegal substances and creative hiding spots are found. We've had engineering people discover stuff in the vents during routine maintenance of rooms, guests finding baggies in books in the lending library or housekeepers finding items while cleaning the rooms for the new check in.

Being in a bustling hotel does afford a certain anonymity as we can never say for sure who was the one using or how long something that's been well hidden has been in a particular room. We are very well aware you can't take your stash with you, but for the sake of staff and the guest coming in after you, we do wish you'd discard it instead of leaving it behind. □



Aruban born and bred Shanella Pantophlet is passionate about tourism. That is the world she studied and works in, so we might as well call her a specialist. Luckily for Aruba Today Shanella also loves to write. And together with the fact that the majority of our readers are tourists, we found ourselves a perfect combination for a column: Hotel Hustle.



# SPORTS



## **Samantha Mewis scores twice to lead U.S. past South Africa 3-0**

By JOSH DUBOW  
AP Sports Writer

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)

— Samantha Mewis is finding her stride again just in time for her first World Cup. Mewis scored goals in both halves and the U.S. women's national team began its World Cup send-off series with a 3-0 victory over South Africa on Sunday.

"Sammy's confidence just grows and grows and grows with match play and the experience that she gets out there," coach Jill Ellis said. "She's a dynamic player than can impact a game. When you go to a World Cup, your midfield, you need to have players that can score goals from distance, that can get in the box, that can obviously play make. There's versatility to Sam." After starting every game for the national team in 2017, Mewis missed most of 2018 with a knee injury. But she has worked her way back and scored last month against Belgium and followed that up against South Africa with her second career two-goal game.

"Everyone on this team has been through adversity," Mewis said. "All of our journeys have been amazing in that they led us here. Sharing this with my teammates and sharing this with my family is the best part." Carli Lloyd added her 108th career goal in second-half added time to the delight of the crowd of 22,788 at the home of the NFL's San Francisco 49ers.

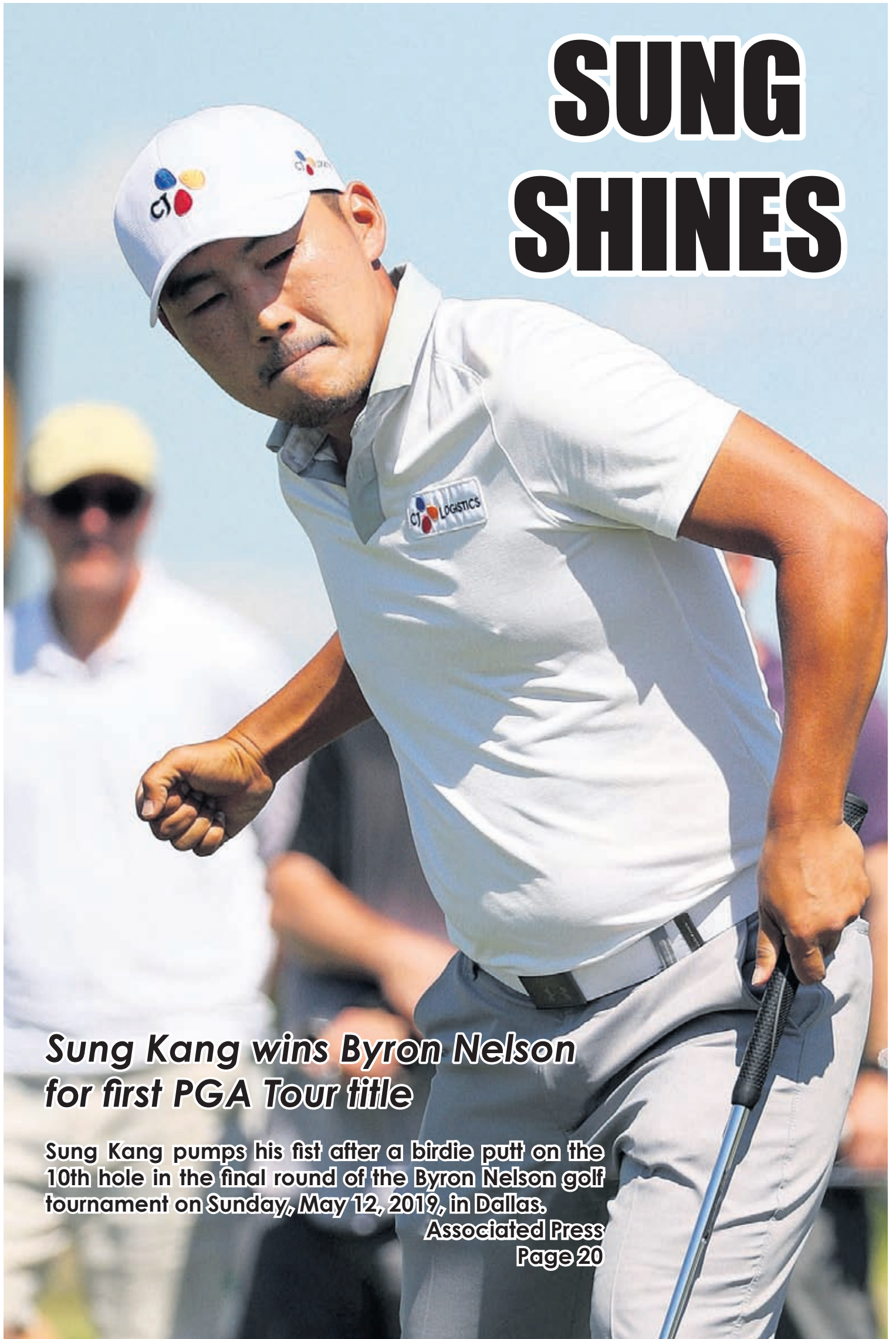
Continued on Page 23

# SUNG SHINES

## **Sung Kang wins Byron Nelson for first PGA Tour title**

**Sung Kang pumps his fist after a birdie putt on the 10th hole in the final round of the Byron Nelson golf tournament on Sunday, May 12, 2019, in Dallas.**

**Associated Press  
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# CJ McCollum leads Blazers past Nuggets 100-96 in Game 7

By ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Sports Writer

**DENVER (AP)** — Damian Lillard's shots kept banging off the backboard, rattling off the rim, going everywhere but through the hoop.

The Portland Trail Blazers are going to the Western Conference Finals anyway because CJ McCollum had his back.

McCollum scored 37 points and added a crucial chase-down block in the closing minutes that helped the Blazers beat the Denver Nuggets 100-96 on Sunday to advance to their first conference championship since 2000.

They'll open Tuesday night at Golden State against the two-time defending NBA champion Warriors in a series pitting Portland's Seth Curry against his big brother, Golden State star Steph Curry.

Lillard scored 13 points and made just 3 of 17 shots from the field, but two of them were critical 3-pointers in the fourth quarter that put Portland ahead 81-76 and 92-85.

"It's a luxury to have two guys like that who can find different ways to score in different ways," Blazers coach Terry Stotts said. "CJ does it one way, Dame does it in another. On a night when Dame struggled shooting the ball CJ came up big."

"CJ McCollum showed why they have one of the best backcourts in the NBA," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "He put his team on his back and made big play after big play."

None bigger than when his crucial chase-down block with 4:44 left and the Trail Blazers leading 87-83.

McCollum raced to stop a breakaway layup by Jamal Murray, who had a miserable night shooting, missing 14 of 18 shots.

"Seth did a good job of cutting off his lane and making him have to go over his head," McCollum said. "He put it right there for me and I went and got it 'Bron

style. Shout out to my guy 'Bron. It was a mini-version of 'Bron's block on Iggy some years ago. Definitely didn't get up as high but it was a cool play. I might get a picture of that."

Lillard said it was just the spark the Blazers needed to complete the comeback from a 17-point first-half hole.

"Those are the plays that get teams going, coming off a turnover and they get an easy one," he said. "At that point of the game you want to make them work for everything."

The Nuggets were down 96-95 coming out of a timeout when McCollum hit a pull-up jumper over Torrey Craig with 12.4 seconds left. The mismanagement continued: Jokic was fouled inside shooting a 2-pointer with 11.4 seconds left and missed the first free throw. Instead of missing the second on purpose, he made it for a 98-96 deficit. Eric Turner then hit two free throws with eight seconds left for the final margin, and Jokic missed a long 3-pointer, with five seconds remaining, Turner grabbed the rebounds and dribbled out the clock.

The Nuggets raced to a 39-22 lead and Game 7 was beginning to look a lot like Game 5, when Denver blew out Portland by 26 points in this building. But Stotts called a timeout with 7:26 left in the second quarter and his team began chipping away.

"There wasn't going to be any quit," Stotts said. "I didn't think they ever stopped believing. ... It was just about regrouping."

The Blazers were down 48-39 at halftime and trailed by just a point heading into the fourth quarter.

That's when the Nuggets' hopes of reaching their first Western Conference Finals in a decade died with a 7-of-24 shooting performance, including 3 of 10 from Jokic, who tearfully blamed himself in the locker room for the loss.

Nonsense, said his coach, who suggested Jokic es-

tablished himself during these playoffs as the best big man in basketball and he only petered out at the end because the Nuggets had to rely so heavily on the 7-foot All-Star.

"I hope after 14 playoff games, America, everyone around the world, came to appreciate his game," Malone said. "For him to be as emotional and upset as he was speaks to his caring. He was upset because he thinks he didn't do enough for us to win tonight." It was a devastating end to Denver's season after the Nuggets ended a six-year playoff drought and earned the second seed in the Western Conference bracket. □



Portland Trail Blazers guard CJ McCollum, right, flies over Denver Nuggets forward Mason Plumlee for a basket in the second half of Game 7 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series Sunday, May 12, 2019, in Denver.

Associated Press

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Sung Kang, winner of the Byron Nelson golf tournament, poses for a photo with his caddy Jason Shortall who kisses the trophy on Sunday, May 12, 2019, in Dallas.

Associated Press

## Kang rallies again at Byron Nelson for 1st PGA Tour victory

By **STEPHEN HAWKINS**  
AP Sports Writer

**DALLAS (AP)** — Sung Kang was a teenager when his father started sending him from South Korea to North Texas in the winters and summers to work on his golf game.

The 31-year-old Kang, who now lives in the area while playing on the PGA Tour, got to call his father Sunday to tell him, "I did it," after his getting his first victory in his 159th career start.

Kang closed the Byron Nelson with a 4-under 67 to finish at 23 under and beat Matt Every and Scott Piercy by two strokes.

With three consecutive birdies late, including a

23-footer on the 15th hole, Kang finally regained the lead for good on a 27-hole Mother's Day Sunday at Trinity Forest — about 30 minutes from his home in Coppell, where he has lived since his PGA Tour debut in 2011.

"It just feels amazing. I was thinking about winning on the PGA Tour when I was real young and watching Tiger dominating," Kang said. "My dad gave me a lot of support when I was young."

Kang pumped his fist when the birdie dropped in at No. 15, making for a two-stroke swing. Every, who started that 431-yard par 4 tied for the lead, was in

the middle of the fairway before what he called "just a terrible shot" on his approach that set up a three-putt for bogey.

"I watched him for 72 holes. He didn't miss. Hard to beat," Every said.

Every finished with a 66. Piercy, also in the final threesome, ended a bogey-free tournament with a 64.

Twice over the last two days, Every overcame deficits of at least four strokes and went ahead of Kang. They played together all four rounds.

"First two rounds, we're not playing to win. We're just making birdies back and forth, and back and forth. Just getting great momentum," said Kang, who matched the course record with a 61 in the second round Friday. "Then Saturday and Sunday, it's going. ... He played great on the front nine. I played great on the back nine." Brooks Koepka, the world's No. 3-ranked player who now goes to Bethpage to defend his PGA Championship title, finished fourth at the Nelson at 20 under after a 68.

"Sometimes you just get beat. That happened this week," Koepka said. "Played good. I like my chances next week. I feel like I'm striking it well, putting it really well. ... It was important going into next week." Koepka has also won the last two U.S. Opens since his last previous appearance at the Nelson, in 2017 when the tournament was last played TPC Four Seasons. Jordan Spieth, a member at the links-style course south of downtown Dallas, shot a 71 to tie for 29th at 11 under. His best Nelson finish is still a tie for 16th in 2010 when he played in the tournament for the first time as a 16-year-old amateur on a sponsor exemption. Spieth is still without a top-20 finish in his 13 starts this season. He last won at the 2017 British Open, his third major victory. □

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# Bruins thump Hurricanes 6-2, take 2-0 lead in East finals

By JIMMY GOLEN  
AP Sports Writer

**BOSTON (AP)** — With a five-goal, third-period lead and the Bruins still not done scoring, the crowd in the new Boston Garden began a throaty chant of "We want the Cup!"

The next time they see their team, the NHL's championship trophy might be on the line for real.

Matt Grzelcyk scored twice — his first career multigoal game — and Tuukka Rask made 21 saves to lead the Bruins to a 6-2 victory over the Carolina Hurricanes on Sunday and give Boston a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

Connor Clifton had his first career NHL goal — the 19th Bruins player to score this postseason, tying a franchise record. Jake DeBrusk, David Backes and Danton Heinen also connected, and Torey Krug and Charlie Coyle had three assists apiece.

"It does feel contagious," said Boston coach Bruce Cassidy, whose team won its fifth straight game and needs two more victories to reach the Stanley Cup Final for the third time in nine seasons. "Everybody's contributing."

The series moves to Carolina for Games 3 and 4 on Tuesday and Thursday nights. The Hurricanes need to win at least one to force a fifth game back in Boston on Saturday night.

"Sometimes you've got to eat a poop sandwich. It doesn't taste good and you have to chew on it for a little bit," Hurricanes captain Justin Williams said. "We'll have to do it for a couple days and get the taste out of our mouth next game."

The Bruins won 5-2 in Game 1, but the Hurricanes led

early in the third period and it was still 3-2 with 4 minutes to play.

This one wasn't ever close.

the air on Mother's Day to finish off the 1970 Stanley Cup, the Hall of Famer was in the building as a pre-

Brind'Amour said. "We needed an answer and we didn't have one."

Backes scored 1:10 into

with 15 minutes left before Williams got Carolina on the scoreboard.

Notes: Duke coach Mike



**Boston Bruins' Jake DeBrusk (74) threads between defenders to beat Carolina Hurricanes goaltender Petr Mrazek for a goal during the first period in Game 2 of the NHL hockey Stanley Cup Eastern Conference final series, Sunday, May 12, 2019, in Boston.**

Associated Press

Petr Mrazek stopped just 19 shots, and Boston led 6-0 before Williams and Teuvo Teravainen scored in the last nine minutes to deprive Rask of a seventh career postseason shutout.

"The other night wasn't as bad. We were right in the game," said Carolina coach Rod Brind'Amour, whose team also fell behind 0-2 against the Washington Capitals in the first round before eliminating the defending champions in seven. "They're playing their game; we haven't gotten to ours."

Nearly a half century after Bobby Orr soared through

game hype man known as the banner captain. The crowd gave him a standing ovation, and the team responded as well.

Grzelcyk and DeBrusk scored late in the first, and Clifton made it 3-0 early in the second. With two minutes left in the middle period and Boston back on the power play, Heinen took a long pass out of the Boston zone from Marcus Johansson and drew two defenders with him before sliding it into the slot.

Grzelcyk slipped the puck over to his backhand and beat Mrazek to make it 4-0. "That was the cooker,"

the third period, leaving Mrazek looking over to the bench to see if he would be replaced. Brind'Amour said Mrazek, who returned from an injury for Game 1 after Curtis McElhinney started the last two games of the East semifinals, had earned the right to stay in if that's what he wanted to do.

"We talked about it, but he doesn't want to come out. He's a battler," Brind'Amour said. "A lot of other guys on the bench deserve to come out, if that's how were doing it."

Heinen finished on a feed from Patrice Bergeron to give Boston a six-goal lead

Krzyzewski made a hype video for the Hurricanes. ... Brad Marchand appeared in his 99th career playoff game. ... Carolina's Sebastian Aho was held without a goal for the first time in four games, leaving Bates Battaglia (2002) and Ray Sheppard (1999) the only players to score in four straight for the franchise. ... Krug is the fifth Bruins defenseman with three or more assists in multiple playoff games. Orr and Ray Bourque did it five times apiece.

#### UP NEXT

Game 3 is Tuesday night in Raleigh, North Carolina. □



# Djokovic beats Tsitsipas to win his 3rd Madrid Open title

By **TALES AZZONI**  
AP Sports Writer

**MADRID (AP)** — Novak Djokovic celebrated a lot more than a record-tying 33rd Masters 1000 title at the Madrid Open.

Djokovic left the Spanish capital feeling pretty good about his game, too, carrying a lot of confidence into the rest of the clay-court season.

The top-ranked Djokovic earned a comfortable 6-3, 6-4 win over Stefanos Tsitsipas on Sunday to join Nadal as the most successful players in Masters 1000 tournaments, moving five ahead of Roger Federer, who is third in the all-time list.

It was Djokovic's second title of the season, adding to his triumph in the Australian Open.

"I feel like this tournament win was very important for my level of confidence because after the Australian Open I wasn't playing my best, I wasn't finding the right game and the consistency on the court in Indian Wells, Miami and Monte Carlo," Djokovic said.

"(It's a) very important time for me in the season, because this gives me a lot of confidence prior to Rome and, of course, Roland Garros, where I definitely want to play my best."

Djokovic will be seeking his second French Open title in June.

He now has three Madrid Open trophies, adding to the ones he won in 2011 and 2016.

"These are the best tournaments, biggest tournaments we have in our sport, in the ATP, of course alongside the Grand Slams," Djokovic said. "This is as important and as good as it gets."

Djokovic was in control from the start against his 20-year-old Greek opponent, who had defeated Nadal in the Madrid semifinals and was trying to become the first player to win three tour titles this season. The Serb broke Tsitsipas early in the first set and late in the second to comfortably



**Serbia's Novak Djokovic holds the trophy after winning the final of the Madrid Open tennis tournament in two sets, 6-3, 6-4, against Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas in Madrid, Spain, Sunday, May 12, 2019.**

Associated Press

close out the match at the Magic Box center court, securing his 14th clay title — and 74th overall — without dropping a set.

The eighth-seeded Tsitsipas, the tour's winningest player in 2019 with 27 victories, lacked the intensity and aggressiveness that he showed against second-ranked Nadal and was overpowered by Djokovic. He had beaten Djokovic in Toronto last year in the first meeting between the two players.

"He deserved the victory, he played unbelievable. I couldn't do much," Tsitsipas said.

"Physically I was not there. My legs were not coping with my mind.

Completely I could feel the fatigue and this soreness, not just in my legs, but everywhere in my body. I had a tough match last night, so he took advantage of that. I just didn't have solutions."

Djokovic didn't concede a break point on Sunday, earning a crucial one for himself at 4-4 in the second set by returning Tsitsipas' overhead shot with a backhand winner down the line. He then served out to win the match.

The 31-year-old Djokovic, who now has 200 wins against top 10 opponents, had struggled after winning the Australian Open, with his best result since then having been a quar-

terfinal appearance in Monte Carlo at the start of the clay-court season.

He was coming off another confidence-boosting win over an in-form Dominic Thiem to make it to the final in Madrid.

Tsitsipas, who will reach a career-high No. 7 ranking this week, won titles in Estoril and Marseille, and reached the final in Dubai, where he lost to Federer. He was beaten by Nadal in the Australian Open semifinals for his best-ever showing in a Grand Slam.

The Toronto final, when he lost to Nadal, was his first in a Masters 1000 event.

In the doubles final, Jean-Julien Rojer and Horia Tecau defeated Thiem and Diego Schwartzman 6-2, 6-3 for their second Madrid Open title, adding to their 2016 victory.

Kiki Bertens won the women's title on Saturday. □



**Germany's Pascal Ackermann, center, celebrates as he crosses the finish line to win the 2nd stage of the Giro d'Italia, tour of Italy cycling race, from Bologna to Fucecchio, Sunday, May 12, 2019.**

Associated Press

## Ackermann sprints to 1st Giro win, Roglic in overall lead

**FUCECCHIO, Italy (AP)** —

Pascal Ackermann of Germany sprinted to victory at the end of the second stage of the Giro d'Italia on Sunday, while Slovenian cyclist Primoz Roglic remained overall leader.

It was the first win in his first Grand Tour for the 25-year-old Ackermann, who rides for Bora-Hansgrohe.

Ackermann edged out Elia Viviani and Caleb Ewan in a bunch sprint at the end of the rolling 205-kilometer (127-mile) route from Bologna to Fucecchio.

"I'm just so happy to win the first sprint stage because now all the pressure is gone and we showed we are really strong," Ackermann said. "I'm just so happy." All the major favorites avoided a small crash towards the front of the peloton inside the final kilometer. Ackermann and Ewan started their sprints around the same time but Ewan

also lost out to Viviani who managed to secure second spot. "I chose the right moment to sprint from 250 meters to go," Ackermann added. "Viviani was also really strong luckily I started first and I won today. To win the first stage of my first Grand Tour is fantastic."

The first part of the stage was wet and cold but it dried up in the second half of the day and the cyclists were able to shed some layers. Roglic, who won the opening time trial on Saturday, is 19 seconds ahead of British cyclist Simon Yates in the overall standings and 23 seconds ahead of home favorite Vincenzo Nibali.

"It wasn't an easy day because it was cold from the beginning and also quite fast all the time," Roglic said. "It'll be another day in the Maglia Rosa tomorrow. The team worked hard for that. It's a pleasure to retain the jersey." □

## Peter Sagan wins opening stage of the Tour of California

**SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)** —

Peter Sagan has had trouble finding his way to the front at the finish this season. Turns out he just needed to get back to the Tour of California.

The three-time road cycling world champion, and the winningest rider in race history, freelanced his way to the front of the open-

ing stage Sunday and then held off fast-finishing Travis McCabe of the USA Cycling team to earn his 17th career win in North America's biggest stage race.

Sagan had only one victory this season, a meager amount of success for arguably the world's most versatile rider. Some thought he was still feeling the lin-

gering effects of a crash at last year's Tour de France, though the affable Slovakian sprinter insisted all along that he was close to form. "I felt great. I was closing in on him," McCabe said. "I had to come from two or three wheels back of Peter, and I knew this stage has a slightly false-flat, so I waited until I needed to go." □



# Williams takes Hurd's 154-pound belts by unanimous decision

By IAN QUILLEN

Associated Press

**FAIRFAX, Va. (AP)** — Jarrett Hurd was welcomed into the ring by the Washington Redskins marching band. He left in a manner familiar to his favorite football team recently, losing to an opponent from Philadelphia. Challenger Julian Williams unanimously outpointed Hurd on Saturday night at EagleBank Arena in front of the defending champ's home fans to take the IBF, WBA and IBO super welterweight titles.

"This is a dream come true," said the Philadelphia-based Williams, who lost his one previous shot at the IBF title to Jermall Charlo in December of 2016. "I have been waiting for this for years. I never ditched the gym. I never got into girls or left the gym. I am from the streets, but I was never in the streets. I was in the gym practicing my craft."

Williams (27-1-1) knocked down Hurd (23-1) in the second round and stayed on his feet throughout. While both fighters appeared in danger at times, Williams clearly believed he won in the later rounds.

The judges agreed, scoring it 116-111, 115-112 and 115-



**Julian Williams celebrates after winning the boxing match against Jarrett Hurd for the IBF, WBA and IBO world super welterweight titles at EagleBankArena in Fairfax, Va., Saturday, May 11, 2019. Williams won by unanimous decision.**

112, as did Hurd's corner.

"It wasn't the pressure of being home for Jarrett. J-Rock was the better fighter tonight," insisted Hurd trainer Ernesto Rodriguez.

"We want the rematch. Our preparation will be better." During the middle of the sixth round, arguably Hurd's best, Williams made a "come at me" expression

after Hurd connected with a jab. Williams was flexing to his corner after the 11th, and was the more active fighter in the 12th, landing one final promising combination 45 seconds before the bell.

When the final bell sounded, trainer Stephen Edwards rushed out of Williams' corner to hoist his

fighter aloft.

"I am not shocked. I am just happy," Edwards said. "We just knew that we were going to win. There are certain things that you just know. He trained so hard and he was so ready, I just knew. Hurd, from Accokeek, Maryland, Hurd entered to a live rendition of "Hail to the Redskins" and wore the

team's logo on his robe. He hoped a win here would propel his quest to unify the remaining 154-pound belts. But he failed to seize momentum in front of his fans, who tried to edge him on by chanting "Swift! Swift! Swift!" According to the scorecards, Williams would've won even without his knockdown.

"I just feel like J-Rock truly was the better man tonight," Hurd said. "I kind of think hearing my hometown with my name being chanted, it caused me to try a little harder instead of just staying relaxed and take my time. That could have played a part, but no excuses."

After a quiet first round, Williams appeared to hurt Hurd midway through the second with a pair of combinations, then floored him with about 30 seconds left with a left hook. Hurd rose quickly, but Williams closed on him again as the bell sounded.

Hurd then opened the sixth as if he believed Williams had been hurt, connecting with a very early right hook that set off a ferocious round from both fighters and brought chants from the crowd. □

## Mewis

Continued from Page 18

That moved Lloyd into fourth place in career goals for the U.S., breaking a tie with Michelle Akers.

"Just doing my thing," Lloyd said. "'Just coming on trying to make a difference. Nothing has really changed from 2005 when I first got on this team."

The Americans controlled the play from the start, with the game played almost entirely in South Africa's end. But despite dominating possession, the U.S. generated few prime scoring chances early because several crosses and final passes just missed their targets inside the box.

Mewis had one of the best chances when her header off a cross from Tobin Heath sailed just over the

crossbar. But Mewis made the most of her next opportunity in the 37th minute when she took a pass from Rose Lavelle near the top of the box. Mewis faked to her left, came back to the right and beat goalie Andile Dlamini with a shot from outside the box that went just inside the post.

The Americans kept up the pressure in the second half and finally added a second goal after Dlamini left with an injury and was replaced by Kaylin Swart. Megan Rapinoe started the play with a quick restart after a foul and eventually sent a cross into the box. Swart deflected the pass but it went right off Mewis and into the net to make it 2-0 in the 78th minute. Mewis other two-goal game for the national team came in

a friendly against South Korea in 2017.

"More than likely, we'll face a team like this in the World Cup," defender Kelly O'Hara said. "It's good to get in the practice. I think we could have been a bit better today. But that's why we have friendlies, to work on things."

This match is the first of three tuneups in the World Cup send-off series for the Americans, followed by a game Thursday against New Zealand in St. Louis and May 26 against Mexico in New Jersey.

The tournament starts June 7, and the U.S. pays its first match four days later against Thailand. The Americans will also play Chile and Sweden in the opening round.

The U.S. had its full roster



**The United States team celebrates after a goal by midfielder Samantha Mewis (3) in the first half of an international friendly soccer match against South Africa in Santa Clara, Calif., Sunday, May 12, 2019.**

Associated Press

in place and started close to the expected lineup in France with the exception of Lindsey Horan and Rapinoe, who came in as a second-half substitute.

The game against the 49th ranked South Africans, who will make their first Women's World Cup appearance next month, didn't provide the stiffest test. □

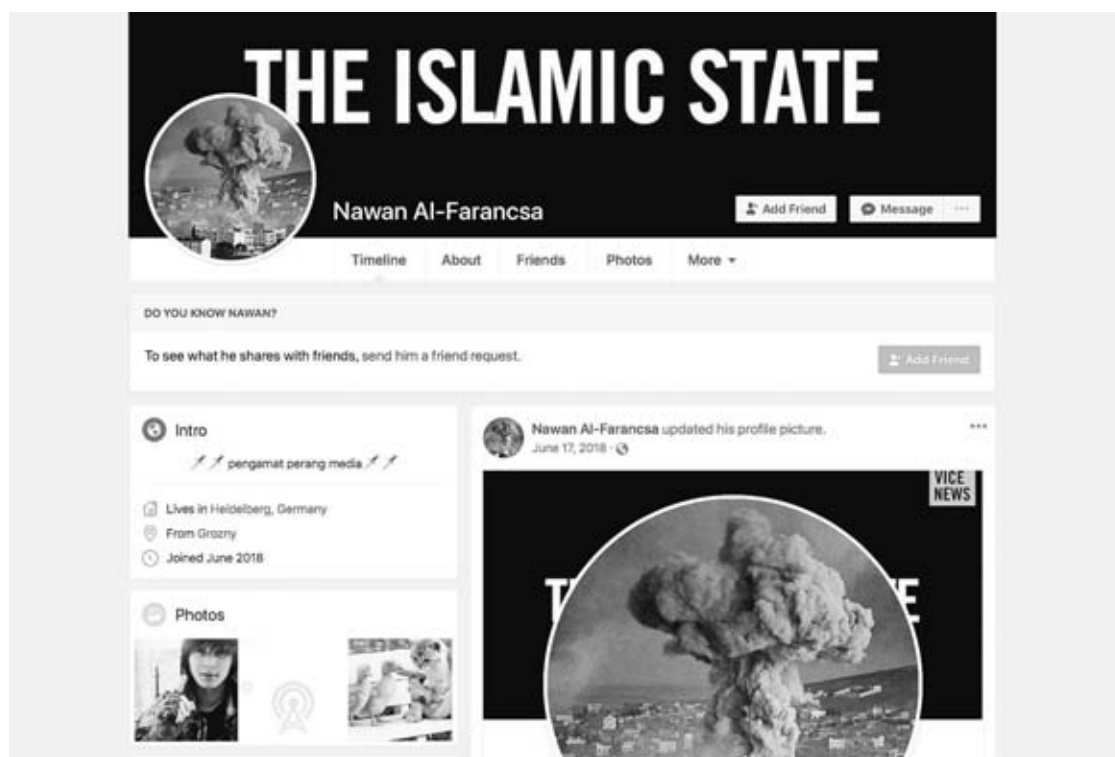


# Why does Facebook fail to fix itself? It's partly humans

**By BARBARA ORTUTAY**  
**AP Technology Writer**  
**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — The question comes up over and over, with extremist material, hate speech, election meddling and privacy invasions. Why can't Facebook just fix it? It's complicated, with reasons that include Facebook's size, its business model and technical limitations, not to mention years of unchecked growth. Oh, and the element of human nature.

The latest revelation: Facebook is inadvertently creating celebratory videos using extremist content and auto-generating business pages for the likes of ISIS and Al Qaida. The company says it is working on solutions and the problems are getting better. That is true, but critics say better is not good enough when mass shootings are being live-streamed and online mobs are spreading rumors that lead to deadly violence.

"They have been frustratingly slow in dealing with everything from child sexual abuse to terrorism, white supremacy, bullying, nonconsensual porn" and things like allowing advertisers to target categories such as "Jew hater," simply because some users had listed the term as an "interest," said Hany Farid, a digital forensics expert at



**A banner reading "The Islamic State" is displayed on the Facebook page of a user identifying himself as Nawan Al-Faransa.**

the University of California, Berkeley.

As new problems crop up, Facebook's formula has been to apologize and promise to make changes, sometimes also noting that it did not anticipate how malicious actors could so readily misuse its platform. More recently, the company has also emphasized just how much it is improving, both technically in its use of artificial intelligence to detect problems and in terms of focusing more money and effort on fixing them.

"After making heavy investments, we are detect-

ing and removing terrorism content at a far higher success rate than even two years go," Facebook said Wednesday in response to the revelations about the auto-generated pages. "We don't claim to find everything, and we remain vigilant in our efforts against terrorist groups around the world."

It has seen some success. In late 2016, CEO Mark Zuckerberg infamously dismissed as "pretty crazy" the idea that fake news on his service could have swayed the election. He later backtracked, and since then

the company has reduced the amount of misinformation shared on its service, as measured by several independent studies.

Zuckerberg has also, by and large, avoided similar gaffes by conceding mistakes and delivering apologies to the public and to lawmakers.

But even as the company bats down one problem, others pop up. The reason for that might be baked into its DNA. And that's not just because its business model relies on as many people as possible using it as much as possible, leav-

ing behind personal details that can then be targeted by advertisers. "Almost everything Facebook has designed has been designed for good people. People who are nice to each other, who have birthdays to celebrate, who have new puppies and generally like to treat others well," said Siva Vaidhyanathan, director of the Center for Media and Citizenship at the University of Virginia. "Basically Facebook is made for a better species than ours. If it were made for golden retrievers, everything would be great." But if just 1% of the 2.4 billion people on Facebook want to do terrible things to others, that's 24 million people.

"Every couple of weeks, we hear about Facebook knocking down troublesome pages, making promises about hiring more people, building AI and so on," Vaidhyanathan said. "But at Facebook's scale, none of that will matter. We are basically stuck with all this garbage."

Chris Hughes, a co-founder of Facebook, called for a breakup of the social media giant in a Thursday op-ed. Vaidhyanathan also thinks strong government regulation could be the answer, such as laws that "limit companies' ability to suck up all our data and use it to target advertising."



**Nike officials demonstrate the company's foot-scanning tool on its app that will measure and remember the length, width and other dimensions of customers' feet after they point a smartphone camera to their toes, Wednesday April 24, 2019, in New York.**

**Associated Press**

## Nike's plan for better-fitting kicks: Show us your feet

**By JOSEPH PISANI**  
**AP Retail Writer**  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Nike wants to meet your feet. The sneaker seller will add a foot-scanning tool on its app this summer that will measure the length, width and other dimensions of customers' feet after they point a smartphone camera to their toes. The app will then tell shoppers what size to buy each of its shoes in, which Nike hopes will get you in the right fit and cut down on costly returns as it seeks to sell more of its goods through its websites

and apps. But Nike will also get something it has never had before: a flood of data on the feet of regular people, a potential goldmine for the shoe maker, which says it will use the information to improve the design of its shoes. Nike mainly relies on the feet of star athletes to build its kicks.

"Nikes will become better and better fitting shoes for you and everyone else," says Michael Martin, who oversees Nike's websites and apps.

Nike won't sell or share the data to other compa-

nies, Martin says. And he says shoppers don't have to save the foot scans to their Nike accounts. But if they do, they'll only have to scan their feet once and Nike's apps, websites and stores will know your dimensions every time you need to buy sneakers. Workers at Nike stores will also be equipped with iPods to do the scanning, replacing those metal sizing contraptions. The challenging part for Nike is convincing people they need to measure their feet in the first place.



# What market tumble? Workers up 401(k) savings to record

By STAN CHOE

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Last year's tumble for the stock market wasn't enough to scare workers off of saving for retirement. Instead, many ended up saving more.

Even after a nearly 20% plunge for the S&P 500 rattled nerves at the close of 2018, workers upped their contributions into 401(k) accounts in the ensuing months. The average worker set aside a record \$2,370 during the first quarter, up 15% from a year earlier, according to Fidelity Investments. Not only that, employers increased their own contributions to a record average of \$1,780.

"I've been in this industry for almost 20 years, and we have been consistently saying that if you have access to a 401(k) or a 403(b), you should take a long-term view," said Katie Taylor, vice president of thought leadership at Fidelity Investments. "It's really encouraging that people are doing that now. That we have savings rates going up, employers adding more, it's all great news."

Altogether, workers saved an average of 13.5% of their pay during the first three months of 2019. That's the



In this Nov. 15, 2017, file photo, new \$1 bills with the signatures of U.S. Treasurer Jovita Carranza and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin are cut and stacked at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington.

closest they've ever come to Fidelity's recommendation of setting aside 15% for retirement, including any employer match.

Many factors were likely behind the increase, Taylor said. Some workers may have reassessed their savings after filing their tax returns. Others may have unwittingly raised their contributions, because employers sometimes set plans to automatically increase savings rates unless workers opt out of it.

It didn't hurt that stock

prices were storming higher early this year, as worries about a possible recession receded, and the S&P 500 had its best first quarter since "Titanic" was pulling in moviegoers in 1998.

Those gains, plus workers' additional contributions, meant the average 401(k) account balance stood at \$103,700 at the end of March, according to Fidelity. That's up from \$95,600 at the start of the year and \$102,900 a year ago.

Balances for individual retirement accounts and

403(b) accounts had similar gains, up to averages of \$107,100 and \$85,800, respectively.

Retirement experts have long asked workers to stay the course when it comes to their savings. The stock market tends to have steep drops of 20% or more every six or seven years, and temptation can be high in such moments to sell out of stocks to protect whatever's left in the nest egg.

But the stock market has — eventually — gone on to recover all its losses af-

ter every one of its past downturns. Following the last severe drop, of 56.7% from 2007 into 2009, it took roughly six and a half years for the S&P 500 to get back to its record level.

More savers are now using a special type of mutual fund that can help with the temptation to sell out of stocks. Target-date retirement funds take care of the investment decisions for savers, including how much of a nest egg to put into stocks and how much to put into bonds. More than half of all savers at Fidelity now have all of their 401(k) account in a target date fund. That rate of 52% is up sharply from 16% a decade earlier, when the stock market finally hit bottom following the 2008 financial crisis.

Workers who have access to a 401(k) plan often have higher incomes than other Americans, which is a factor in their increasing balances. But Taylor said she's seeing improvements for savers along the income scale. "A lot of people think you have to make a lot of money to save a lot of money," she said, "but many people who make less than \$100,000 are doing very well saving 10% to 15% for retirement." □

# US government records \$160.3 billion April surplus

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The federal government recorded a \$160.3 billion surplus in April as revenues for the month jumped to an all-time high.

But even with a flood of tax receipts, the deficit so far this year is running 37.7% higher than a year ago.

The Treasury Department reported Friday that the deficit for the first seven months of the budget year that began Oct. 1 totals \$530.9 billion, compared to a deficit of \$385.5 billion for the same period a year ago.

The Trump administration projected in March that this year's deficit will hit \$1.1 trillion, up from last year's



This April 18, 2019, file photo shows the dome of the U.S. Capitol in Washington. On Friday, April 10, the Treasury Department releases federal budget data for April.

deficit of \$779 billion. The administration is projecting the deficit will stay above \$1 trillion for four straight years before starting to decline for the rest of the decade.

The deficits have increased following congressional passage in December 2017 of a \$1.5 trillion tax cut promoted by President Donald Trump as well as a boost last year in spending on


domestic and military programs.

The Congressional Budget Office is projecting that the deficit this year will climb to \$896 billion, smaller than the administration's \$1.1 trillion forecast but still 15% higher than last year.

The CBO shows slightly smaller deficits in the short-term, projecting that they will remain below \$1 trillion through 2021 but after that will top \$1 trillion and will remain above the \$1 trillion mark for the rest of the decade.

While the government runs deficits in most months, April has been a surplus month for 60 of the past 65 years, reflecting the flood of revenue that comes in with the annual deadline

for individuals to pay tax bills. □



**Have you ever wish you travel to Aruba with just a carry-on ?**

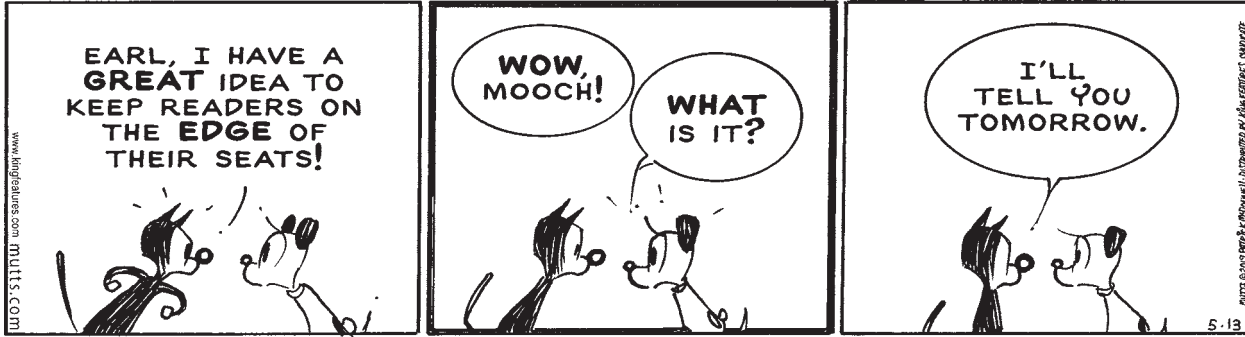
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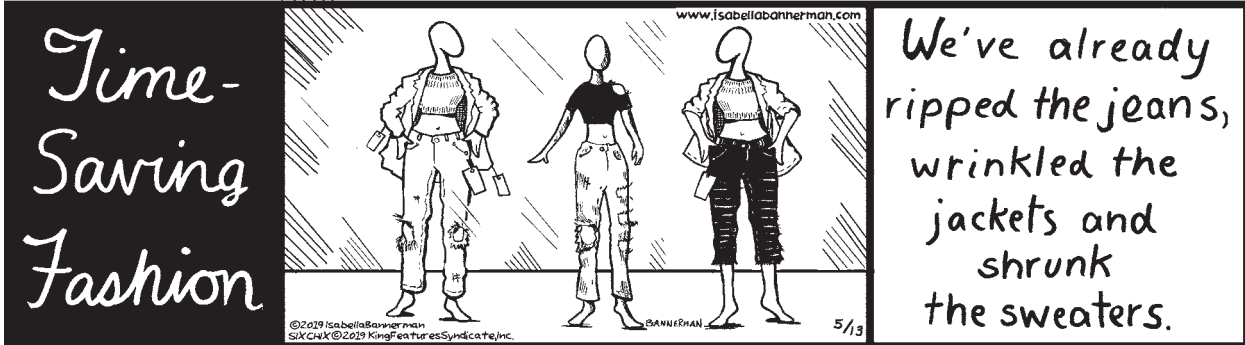
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## Mutts



## 6 Chix



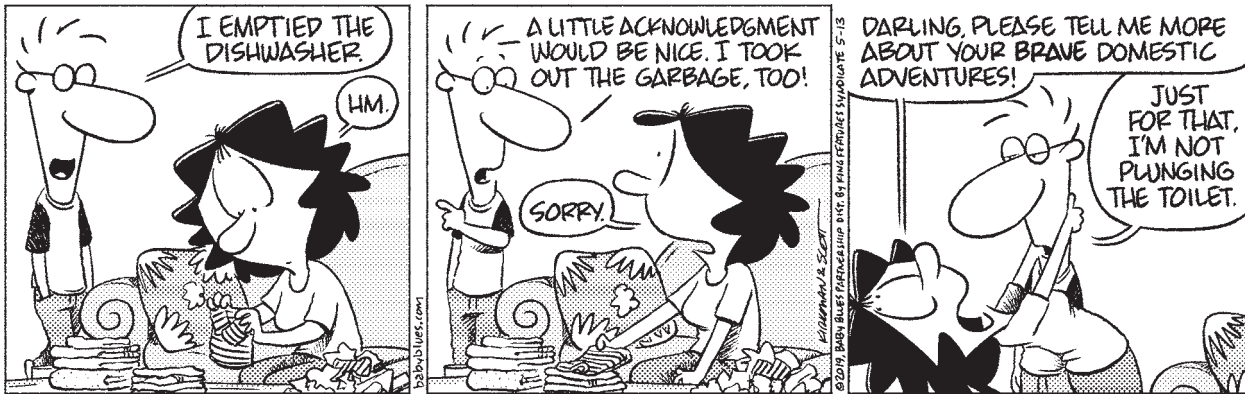
## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

		3		7			1	
				5			4	9
5				9	4			
			1		7	3		
3	9	8				1	7	2
		7	8		9			
			7	8				4
4	6			1				
	8			6		2		

Difficulty Level ★

5/13

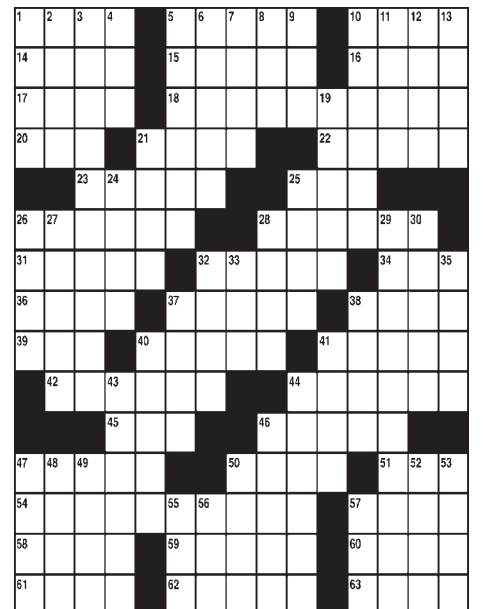
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

5	8	4	9	2	3	7	6	1
7	6	2	1	4	5	8	3	9
3	1	9	6	8	7	5	4	2
6	9	8	4	3	1	2	7	5
4	3	7	5	9	2	1	8	6
2	5	1	7	6	8	4	9	3
8	2	5	3	7	9	6	1	4
9	7	6	2	1	4	3	5	8
1	4	3	8	5	6	9	2	7

### ACROSS

- 1 Injection
- 5 Too heavy
- 10 Walk with heavy steps
- 14 Prying
- 15 Fit for a king
- 16 Of sound mind
- 17 Basics
- 18 Failure to do one's duty
- 20 Luau dish
- 21 Wagers
- 22 Not as polite
- 23 Dishonest folks
- 25 Family member
- 26 Meager; measly
- 28 Pious
- 31 Taken ; surprised
- 32 "Blue Gown"
- 34 Parking area
- 36 Walkway
- 37 Smooth & shiny
- 38 -crossed; ill-fated
- 39 Feasted
- 40 Fast
- 41 Stable animal
- 42 Schoolchild's compositions
- 44 Twirl around an axis
- 45 Fleur-de-
- 46 Subdues
- 47 Starbucks edible
- 50 Switzerland's capital
- 51 Put ; delay
- 54 Horseback rider
- 57 Largest tribe in South Africa
- 58 Garbage truck's destination
- 59 Sicker than before
- 60 Dollar bills
- 61 Talk back
- 62 Stranger
- 63 Some of Keats' poems



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/13/19

5 Crabby

6 Borscht ingredients

7 Breakfast order

8 Actor Mineo

9 Inventor Whitney

10 Artificial; mock

11 "...o'er the of the free..."

12 A single time

13 Forest animal

19 Serious

21 Tree coating

24 Mosquito bite reaction

25 52 cards

26 Dad

27 Diminish; lessen

28 Perished

29 Diagnostic test

30 Browned bread

32 European range

33 Flowery neckwear

35 Birch or beech

37 "who?"; skeptic's question

38 As as a boil

40 Thin metal bars

41 Choir selection

43 Slumbers

44 Actor James

46 Josh with

47 Hospital furnishings

48 Greenish-blue

### Saturday's Puzzle Solved

ALE	BAMBI	TACT
RUTS	OCEAN	AWAY
MICE	SMILE	TRIP
SHATTERED	TYNE	
WOOS	IDO	
SPLEEN	CABOODLE	
TREED	RUBLE	ROB
RUED	MAPLE	DAUB
AND	MOVIE	RAISE
PESTERED	HORNED	
ONE	COAL	
WASA	OFFLIMITS	
ILLS	VIRUS	NUTS
SPAT	ERECT	GNAT
ESPY	REEKS	ERY

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- 56 Curtain holder
- 57 Animal park



## More than a scent: Cyprus promoting its perfume past

By M. HADJICOSTIS

Associated Press

KORAKOU, Cyprus (AP)

— Before Cyprus gained fame as the mythical birthplace of the goddess of love Aphrodite nearly three millennia ago, Cyprus was known around the Mediterranean for its perfumes, scents that the mighty queens of Egypt coveted.

What appears to have distinguished the Cypriot fragrances was the quality of the rich olive oil in which the ancient perfumers captured the musky scent of indigenous oak moss, citrusy bergamot and labdanum or rockrose. This was done through a distillation process using clay vases of exacting dimensions.

"Perfume is the symbol of life," said Maria Rosaria Belgiorno, a retired professor with Italy's National Council for Research whose own archaeological digs on the east Mediterranean island 15 years ago unearthed the oldest perfumery of the Bronze Age.

Perfumes hide the smell of the dead and of decay. They, according to Belgiorno, have a "spiritual connection" to life.

And that connection is one of the motivations behind a new perfume theme park nestled in Cyprus' verdant Solea valley, which allows visitors to recreate those ancient perfumes in the traditional way, with replicas of the ancient clay distillers extracting the scents from the locally grown herbs over an open fire.

Belgiorno says evidence to the popularity of Cyprus' fragrances is found in a reference to a Cypriot perfume merchant inscribed on 4,000 year-old tablets found in the ancient Greek city of Thebes. That reference pre-dates the emergence of the deity Aphrodite, meaning Cyprus was famous for its perfumes before it gave birth to the ancients' love goddess.

The origins of perfume-making are believed to date back to 5,000 B.C. in ancient Mesopotamia, where archaeological digs in the early 20th century



In this photo taken on Saturday, April 4, 2019, Yiannoula Lazarou puts herbs into a clay pots before tending to a fire boiling perfume inside a 2nd millennium B.C. distiller discovered in Cyprus at an ancient perfume theme park and museum in Korakou, Cyprus.

Associated Press

near the city of Mosul in modern-day Iraq turned up the first evidence of such activity.

From there, perfume-making migrated to Anatolia and then to the Mediterranean and beyond, with perfumeries discovered in such diverse places as Sardinia and Slovakia.

For thousands of years, Cypriots — from the highest echelons of nobility to the average commoner — produced and used perfumes. The popularity of those fragrances carried through the ancient Egyptians to the Templars, medieval Venetian merchants and up to the present. Early on in the last century, famed French perfumer Francois Coty created the perfume Chypre — French for Cyprus — which is one of the seven main perfume groups and the only one

that bears the name of a place. The Italian Research National Council, along with Belgiorno, has teamed up with the Lazarou family that runs a successful herbal business to build the park which rests on a parcel of the family's farmland near the village of Korakou.

The park puts on display a range of working replicas including those from the earliest known perfumery in the Mesopotamian Tepe Gawra settlement, from the Minoan era on Crete — of Minotaur fame — and of course from Cyprus.

Distillers hailing from different areas vary, but are identical in their simplicity and ingenuity. The herbs boil at the bottom with the steam rising to the domed top where it condenses into a liquid that flows through a bamboo reed into vases. The design has

proven so successful that distillers identical to those found in Tepe Gawra are now producing rose water in Iran, said Belgiorno.

Although the perfume park was inaugurated late last year and is still a work in progress, word is spreading.

A group of University of Cyprus archaeology students led by the university's archaeological research unit head Vasiliki Kassianidou visited the park for a hands-on demonstration on ancient distillation techniques. □



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**Editor**  
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**Assistant Director**  
Xiomara Arends

**Editor in Chief**  
Linda Reijnders  
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)  
Liza Koolman (Management assistant)

**Editors**  
Richard Brooks  
Jencarlo Trinidad

**Sales**  
Linda Reijnders  
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)  
Sulaika Croes

**Classifieds**  
Rachelle Danje  
(rachelle.danje@cspnv.com)

**Distribution and Collection**  
accounting@bondia.com

**Social / Website**  
Cristian Soto Garcia  
Pilar Flores  
Juan Luis Pinto

**Columnists**  
Anthony Croes  
Joris Zantvoort  
Louedska Maduro  
Shanella Pantophlet  
Steve Francees  
Thais Franken

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800  
E: news@arubatoday.com  
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Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

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May 15

Monarch

May 21

Freedom of the Seas

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Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous  
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Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
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Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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# Amazon's Bezos says he'll send a spaceship to the moon

By SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

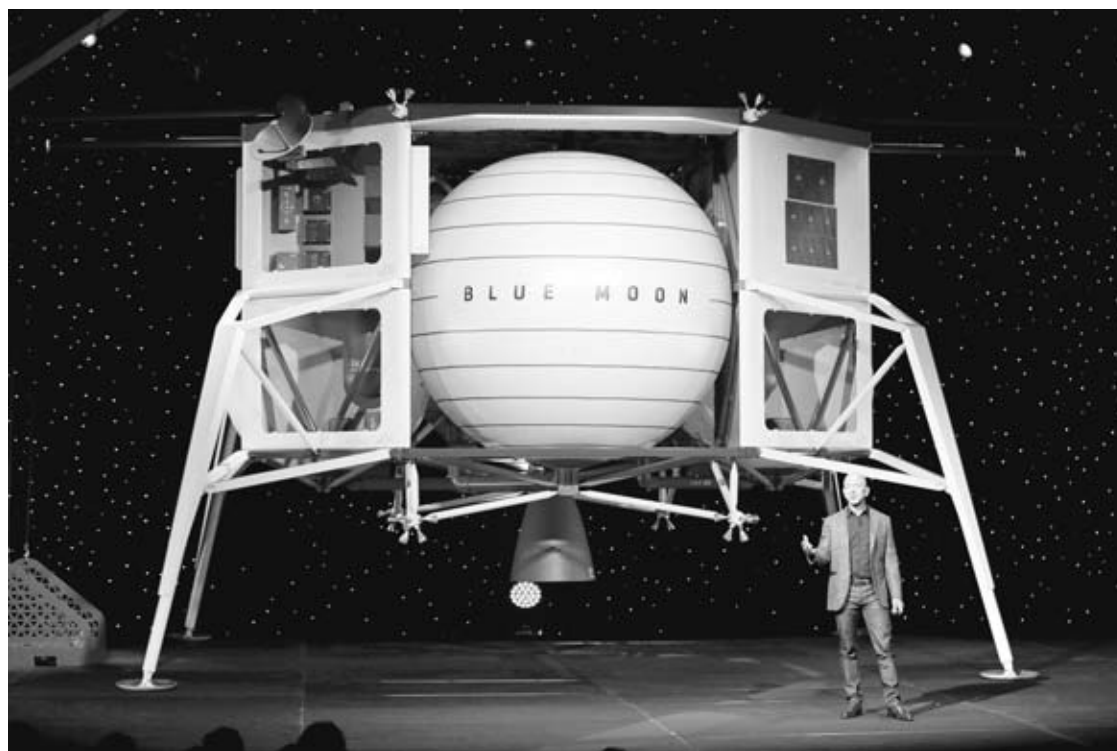
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Amazon tycoon Jeff Bezos said Thursday he's going to send a spaceship to the moon, joining a resurgence of lunar interest half a century after people first set foot there.

Bezos said his space company Blue Origin will land a robotic ship the size of a small house, capable of carrying four rovers and using a newly designed rocket engine and souped-up rockets. It would be followed by a version that could bring people to the moon along the same timeframe as NASA's proposed 2024 return.

Bezos, who was dwarfed by his mock-up of the Blue Moon vehicle at his presentation Thursday, said, "This is an incredible vehicle and it's going to the moon."

He added: "It's time to go back to the moon. This time to stay."

The announcement for the usually secretive space company came with all the glitz of an Apple product launch in a darkened convention ballroom bedazzled with shimmering stars on its walls. Astronauts and other space luminaries sat in the audience under



Jeff Bezos speaks in front of a model of Blue Origin's Blue Moon lunar lander, Thursday, May 9, 2019, in Washington.

blue-tinted lighting before Bezos unveiled the boxy ship with four long and spindly landing legs.

Bezos, who also owns The Washington Post, walked off the stage without providing details, including launch dates, customers and the plan for humans on his rockets. He spent more time talking about his dream of future generations living on orbiting space station colonies than on concrete details about

Blue Origin missions.

Blue Origin officials gave conflicting answers to questions about when the company would land on the moon with and without people. Blue Origin Vice President Clay Mowry said 2024 was not a concrete goal for a mission with people and said it was more up to NASA as a potential customer.

Former U.S. Rep. Robert Walker, a private space consultant who is work-

ing with Blue Origin, said it plans for a 2023 launch without people.

Blue Origin in 2017 revealed plans to send an unmanned, reusable rocket, capable of carrying 10,000 pounds (4,500 kilograms) of payload, to the moon. The company had a successful launch earlier this month, reusing one of its New Shepard rockets, which barely goes to the edge of space, for a fifth time.

The new moon race has a

Associated Press

lower profile than the one in the 1960s. It involves private companies, new countries and a NASA return mission to place astronauts back on the lunar surface by 2024.

While a \$30 million prize for private companies to send robotic probes to the moon went unclaimed last year, one of the competitors, from an Israeli private non-profit, crashed last month as it tried to land.

China has landed a rover on the moon's far side. SpaceX last year announced plans to send a Japanese businessman around the moon in 2023. And the Israeli nonprofit said it will give it a second shot.

The first successful moon landing was by the Soviet Union in 1966 with Luna 9, followed by the U.S. four months later. NASA put the first — and only — people on the moon in the Apollo program, starting with Apollo 11 in July 1969.

"The next leap in space will be fueled by commercial companies like Blue Origin and commercial innovation," said former Obama White House space adviser Phil Larson, now an assistant dean of engineering at the University of Colorado. □



A golden belt buckle uncovered at an Anglo-Saxon burial site in the village of Pritlewell in 2003 on display at Southend Central Museum in Southend, England, Thursday, May 8, 2019.

Associated Press

## Scientists liken Anglo-Saxon burial site to King Tut's tomb

By JAMES BROOKS

Associated Press

**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, England (AP)** — An underground chamber discovered accidentally by road workers appears to be the site of the earliest Christian royal burial ever found in Britain, archaeologists say, calling it the Anglo-Saxon equivalent of King Tutankhamun's tomb.

The chamber, uncovered between a road and a railway line in the southeastern English village of Pritlewell in 2003, turned out to be a 1,400-year-old tomb.

New details were published Thursday about the finding, which archaeologists say is the most important Anglo-

Saxon burial discovery in more than 70 years.

Treasures unearthed at the site include a golden belt buckle, the remnants of a harp-like instrument known as a lyre, gleaming glassware and an elaborate water vessel from the eastern Mediterranean, perhaps Syria.

Researchers say the luxury items indicate the chamber's occupant was a man of high standing, possibly a prince. Two small gold-foil crosses found at the head of the coffin suggest a Christian burial.

"There are luxury imports that have come from as far away as Syria. Some of the raw materials might have

even come as far away as Sri Lanka and the Indian subcontinent," said Liz Barham, a senior conservator at Museum of London Archaeology who worked on the dig. Sophie Jackson, director of research and engagement at Museum of London Archaeology, said the discovery is "our equivalent of Tutankhamun's tomb." While the identity of its occupant is unknown, locals have nicknamed him the "Pritlewell Prince."

Fragments of tooth enamel — the only human remains uncovered — revealed he was over 6 years old, and the size of the coffin suggests he was about 5 foot 8 inches (1.73 meters) tall. □

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# Oates haunted by family denial of Jewish roots

By ISABEL DEBRE  
Associated Press

**JERUSALEM (AP)** — American author Joyce Carol Oates says her family's denial of its Jewish roots haunted her for decades and has shaped her into the famously prolific writer she is today.

Oates, who is making her first-ever trip to Israel to receive the prestigious Jerusalem Prize, said that her Jewish grandmother fled persecution in her native Germany to rural upstate New York in the late 19th century. But she repressed her trauma and Jewish heritage for the rest of her life. Oates, who was raised nominally Catholic yet disconnected from religion, said she learned of her grandmother's secret only after her death in 1970, when a biographer began digging into her ancestry. "I felt an immense loss and sympathy because I never really knew that my grandmother was Jewish, so my whole cultural inheritance was lost," Oates told The Associated Press in an interview at the Jerusalem International Book Fair on Sunday. "But it's the Jewish respect for culture and art that I inherited from my grandmother ... so that's actually beautiful."

Oates said her grandmother played an instrumental role in her career choice, giving her a copy of "Alice and Wonderland," a library card and a typewriter when she was a teenager, inspiring her to pursue writing. "No one else in my Hungarian and Irish family had any interest in books," she said. "There's a tragedy at the loss of my grandmother's history but then a joy in this connection."

At 80, Oates is still writing novels, expanding a vast and varied oeuvre that has brought her wide acclaim. Her political thriller "Hazardous of Time Travel," published last winter, represented her first real foray into dystopia, imagining America's grim future as a totalitarian surveillance state. Reviewers called it reflective of the Trump presidency, but Oates said

it was more about how the "future looks like global control through enormously wealthy corporations." Her upcoming novel, "My Life as a Rat," which comes out next month, grapples with the personal repercussions of a racist hate crime. Oates described the new book as familiar territory for her, dealing with her trademark theme of painful family dynamics and set in rural New York, where she grew up in a working-class family with a severely autistic sister. Oates says her writing is "motivated by social justice," and she often tackles timely topics such as the abortion debate and sexual violence, in addition to criticizing President Donald Trump's policies on Twitter. But she rejects the label of political writer.

"I'm not writing political novels. I'm writing about people," she said. "You can be concerned with a society in which you live without being aware of a larger political structure." Oates also steered clear of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, saying that Jerusalem was "obviously a city of great diversity" but that she "can't make any judgment."

She said that being in Jerusalem would likely influence her next project. "I'm excited to be here, listening to the Hebrew language," she said. "I'm very interested in that culture and identity... and trying to see how I could write about it." The most recent upheaval in her life was the death last month of her second husband, professor of neuroscience Charles Gross. She said it was too soon to discuss her grief.

The death of her first husband, the editor and literary publisher Raymond Smith, motivated her to memorialize him in her celebrated 2011 memoir, "A Widow's Story."

Oates has written nearly 60 novels, won the National Book Award and received five Pulitzer nominations, among other honors. But she called the Jerusalem Prize "the high point" in her career. □



American author Joyce Carol Oates poses for a photo in Jerusalem, Sunday, May 12, 2019.

Associated Press

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# In 'Long Shot,' a comedy with a big heart and smarts

By **LINDSEY BAHR**  
**Associated Press**

Charlize Theron and Seth Rogen make a sparkling comedic duo in the unconventional romantic comedy "Long Shot," about a sleek politician and a schlubby journalist that is more than its superficial premise. The film from director Jonathan Levine, which does its fair share of over-the-

top gross-out humor and jarringly violent physical gags that in real life would have left Rogen's character Fred Flarsky hospitalized or dead, is, even in spite of those overdone R-rated tropes, full of surprising heart, wit and insight about relationships, compromise and (gasp) even politics. Rogen's Fred is a suffer-no-fools politics reporter for a Brooklyn newspaper who



This image released by Lionsgate shows Seth Rogen, left, and Charlize Theron in a scene from "Long Shot."

**Associated Press**

is introduced trying to infiltrate a white nationalist group for a story. Spoiler, it's not as successful as "BlackKlansman," but it is funny. He's idealistic but angry, with a permanent chip on his shoulder, against Republicans, people who make concessions, the wealthy and so on. When he finds out that his paper is being purchased by the massive media conglomerate Wembley Media (a thinly veiled Fox stand-in with a Murdoch-like leader played by Andy Serkis), he quits on principle, rejecting even his boss' offer to fire him so that, at the very least, he can collect unemployment. This puts him on a track to

enter the orbit of Secretary of State Charlotte Field (Charlize Theron), a superstar who gets as much attention for her good looks as anything else, working under a popular but doltish President (Bob Odenkirk) who was best known for playing the President in a television drama for six seasons. Fred's more successful friend Lance (an excellent O'Shea Jackson Jr. in yet another standout supporting comedic performance) convinces him to attend a fancy party with the promise of seeing Boyz II Men, and it's there that he catches eyes with Charlotte. The two knew each other from childhood. Charlotte

used to babysit Fred, who was three years her junior and harbored a big crush on his more glamorous elder. Charlotte, who recently decided to consider a presidential bid of her own, is charmed by this blast from the past, a nostalgic respite from the glossy and surface existence she currently projects and a reminder of her dormant idealism.

So she hires him to punch-up her speeches with jokes that she hopes might improve her likability in the polls, upending his life as they travel around the world trying to get international leaders to sign on for her environmental initiative. They get close along the way, challenging and helping one another get out of their respective ideological ruts. He wants her to only do good. She wants him to understand that compromise and concessions are necessary in politics. Although this is an undeniably modern story, it is also a kind of homage to classic Hollywood romances, pitting two career-driven leads against each other. □

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**PBP** MON-THU 5:30 | 7:50  
 FRI 5:30 | 7:50 | 10:10  
 SAT 12:50 | 3:10 | 5:30 | 7:50 | 10:10  
 SUN 12:50 | 3:10 | 5:30 | 7:50  
**PBP** MON-THU 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10  
 FRI 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:30  
 SAT 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10 | 11:30  
 SUN 2:10 | 4:30 | 6:50 | 9:10  
**YIP**  
 MON-THU 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30  
 FRI 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30 | 10:50  
 SAT 1:30 | 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30 | 10:50  
 SUN 1:30 | 3:50 | 6:10 | 8:30

**THE HUSTLE**  
 ANNE HATHAWAY | REBEL WILSON  
 WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
**PH** MON-THU 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30  
 FRI 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45  
 SAT 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30 | 11:45  
 SUN 2:45 | 5:00 | 7:15 | 9:30

**AVENGERS: ENDGAME**  
 ROBERT DOWNEY JR. | CHRIS EVANS  
 WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
**PH** MON-THU 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20  
 FRI 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20 | 10:30  
 SAT 12:50 | 3:05 | 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20 | 10:30  
 SUN 12:50 | 3:05 | 4:35 | 6:50 | 8:20  
**YIP**  
 MON-FRI 4:55 | 8:40  
 SAT-SUN 1:10 | 4:55 | 8:40  
**PBP** MON-FRI 4:55 | 8:40  
 SAT-SUN 1:10 | 4:55 | 8:40  
**CXC**  
 MON-SUN 3:45 | 7:30  
**PBP** MON-THU 6:30  
 FRI 6:30 | 10:10  
 SAT 2:45 | 6:30 | 10:10  
 SUN 2:45 | 6:30  
**SPANISH**  
 MON-SUN 8:40

**THE INTRUDER**  
 MICHAEL EALY | DENNIS QUaid  
 WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
**PH** MON-THU 5:45 | 8:10  
 FRI 5:45 | 8:10 | 10:35  
 SAT 1:00 | 3:20 | 5:45 | 8:10 | 10:35  
 SUN 1:00 | 3:20 | 5:45 | 8:10  
**PBP** MON-THU & SUN 4:35 | 9:30  
 FRI-SAT 4:35 | 9:30 | 11:55

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 SAT-SUN 1:00 | 3:05 | 5:10 | 7:15  
**PBP** MON-FRI 4:40 | 6:40  
 SAT-SUN 2:40 | 4:40 | 6:40

**LONGSHOT**  
 SETH ROGEN | CHARLIZE THERON  
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## Lucha Libre wrestler Silver King dies at London performance



In this image made from video taken on Saturday, May 11, 2019, The Silver King, right, talks to the camera with fan Mark van der Enden at the Roundhouse in London.

**Associated Press**

**LONDON (AP)** — A well-known Mexican wrestler who co-starred in the comedy "Nacho Libre" has died of a suspected heart attack after collapsing on stage in London. Cesar Cuauhtemoc Gon-

zalez Barron, the lucha libre star known as Silver King, performed Saturday night at The Roundhouse. The north London venue said Sunday on Twitter that he died during the event and more information about the circumstances are be-

ing pursued. The 51-year-old Gonzalez appeared as a champion wrestler and comic villain in the 2006 movie "Nacho Libre", which starred Jack Black as a monk who wants to be a masked luchador. Lucha libre is a popular form of wrestling in Mexico that features colorful masks, elaborate costumes and acrobatic techniques. Lucha Libre World, which promoted the Roundhouse event, said in a statement the star "suffered what we believe was a cardiac arrest while performing in the show and sadly passed away." Attendee Roberto Carrera Maldonado told the BBC the wrestler's condition initially appeared "staged" as part of the fight, before efforts were made to revive him. □



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## Alyssa Milano calls for sex strike, ignites social media

By IVAN MORENO  
Associated Press

Actress Alyssa Milano ignited social media with a tweet Friday night calling for women to join her in a sex strike to protest strict abortion bans passed by Republican-controlled legislatures. The former star of "Charmed" and current cast member of "Insatiable," which is filmed in Georgia, urged women in her tweet to stop having sex "until we get bodily autonomy back." Her tweet came days after Georgia became the fourth state in the U.S. this year to ban abortions once a fetal heartbeat is detected, which can be as early as six weeks, before many women know they are pregnant. "We need to understand how dire the situation is across the country," Milano told The Associated Press on Saturday. "It's remind-

ing people that we have control over our own bodies and how we use them." She noted that women have historically withheld sex to protest or advocate for political reform. She cited how Iroquois women refused to have sex in the 1600s as a way to stop unregulated warfare. Most recently, she noted that Liberian women used a sex strike in 2003 to demand an end to a long-running civil war. Milano received support from fans and fellow actress Bette Midler joined her in also calling for a sex strike with her own tweet. But both liberals and conservatives also lampooned her idea, with conservatives praising her for promoting abstinence and liberals saying she was pushing a false narrative that women only have sex as a favor to men. Milano said the criticism



In this Jan. 6, 2019 file photo, Alyssa Milano arrives at the InStyle and Warner Bros. Golden Globes afterparty at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

didn't bother her and that her tweet was having her desired effect, "which is getting people to talk about the war on women." She said she fears one of the laws could eventually be decided by the conservative-leaning U.S. Supreme Court, which Republicans hope will overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion. "That is absolutely horrifying to me," Milano said. "Anyone who is not completely and totally outraged by this and doesn't see where this is leading, I think is not taking this threat seriously." Milano said people have to determine for themselves how long the sex strike should last. For her part, she hasn't decided yet how long she will forgo sex. "I mean I don't know," she said. "I sent a tweet last night I haven't really thought much past that this morning." □



# What it's like to do the Everest Base Camp trek

By **MOLLY SPRAYREGEN**  
Associated Press

Whenever I told someone I was planning to climb to Mount Everest Base Camp this spring, I received the same shocked and wide-eyed response: "Be careful!" While that's good advice for any adventure, it was difficult to convince friends and family that this trip would not at all be the same thing as actually climbing Mount Everest.

Instead, the Everest Base Camp Trek provides an opportunity for regular hikers like me to tackle a feasible portion of one of the most iconic climbs in the world.

Base Camp is located at 17,600 feet, well below the peak of Everest, which is 29,000 feet. Base Camp is where those planning to summit spend weeks acclimatizing and preparing for their journey. It is also the furthest you can go using only your legs, before other equipment like ropes and ice picks get involved.

Our eight-day journey to Base Camp began at 9,300 feet, in the small Nepalese mountain town of Lukla. There are no roads to Lukla. It is accessible only by a 30-minute plane ride from Kathmandu. When we landed, I was shocked to find the area crowded and bustling, filled with locals selling trinkets and outdoor gear, and what felt like hundreds of trekkers preparing for their climbs.

From Lukla, we wound our way up muddy paths and across dangling suspension bridges, stepping aside for herds of yak and dzo (yak/cattle hybrids) as we walked further and further into the most remote area in which I have ever hiked. Yet, it didn't feel that way. Small towns continued to greet us all the way up. There were lodges to stay in. There were restaurants and bars. I have photos at the world's highest Irish pub and the world's highest bakery. In one of the larger towns, Namche Bazaar, at about 11,200 feet, there was even a North Face store. In these towns, dozens of miles from the nearest road, all food and sup-



This April 10th, 2019 photo, provided by Molly Sprayregen, depicts Molly mid-climb on day 5 of her 8-day trek to Mt. Everest Base Camp through Nepal's Sagarmatha National Park.

Associated Press

plies are brought in by helicopter, porter or animal.

In addition to breathtaking, 360-degree views of the Himalayas, elaborate Buddhist monuments lie along the entire route. Every day along the trail we saw massive, intricately painted boulders and colorful stupas (structures meant to bring good karma) wrapped in multicolored prayer flags. At one point, we even toured a large, fully functioning monastery. The terrain itself is not as difficult as you'd expect. Anyone in good physical shape could do it, and I have done many other hikes that I found more challenging. We still climbed several

thousand feet per day, but the inclines were relatively gradual. This trek, instead, should be known for its panoramic views and the unique experience of hiking through these remote mountain towns.

Of course, the trip is not without risks, but they lie in unexpected places. The flights to and from Lukla are the most dangerous part of the journey. The Lukla airport has long been considered one of the most dangerous airports in the world — and in fact, a fatal crash occurred while we were there. I tried to push the knowledge of the airport's dangers to the furthest recesses of my mind as I

boarded a tiny propeller plane bound for that very place.

The plane ride is beautiful, with mountains on all sides, but the landing is enough to put even the fiercest adventurer on edge. A standard runway is between 6,000-8,000 feet long; Lukla's is only 1,700 feet long. It's sloped upward to help slow the plane before it hits the solid rock wall waiting at the end of it. At the other end is a 2,000-foot drop. After landing safely, we were mesmerized watching the planes taking off for Kathmandu literally fly off the edge of a cliff.

Altitude sickness is also a concern, though if you work with an experienced guiding company as we did, they will ensure you climb up slowly to acclimatize. We had two layover days and hiked a far shorter distance each day than our bodies were capable of going. This itinerary helped us grow accustomed to the air as it grew thinner.

Hiking up slowly didn't feel like a burden, though, as it allowed extra time to take in those jaw-dropping views. The higher I climbed, the more I felt like I could reach out and touch the shimmering, snow-capped peaks. The further we pro-

gressed, the more the mountains seemed to bend toward us, like we were inside of a snow globe.

At several points, we caught sight of Everest's majestic peak peering out from behind its neighbors. Most of Everest lies in Tibet, but the peak is in Nepal. As such, the trek to Base Camp does not actually take place on Mount Everest, but inside Sagarmatha National Park — Sagarmatha being the Nepalese name for Everest.

Each day, as we made it a little higher, the air became a little thinner and our breath a little shorter. By day eight, the time between each step I took had grown significantly. I was breathing hard. My feet were dragging and my head pounding. I trudged slowly upward, but upward nonetheless, knowing the goal was within reach.

By mid-afternoon, we hiked across the final ridge and Base Camp came into view. We had made it to the gateway to the top of the world.

Base Camp rests on a massive glacier. I high-fived my group and took in the sight of dozens of yellow tents pitched across the ice, tents belonging to those preparing for their ascent. According to my trekking guide, the glacial terrain changes so rapidly that the expeditioners have to move their tents every two weeks.

We took pictures beside the sign declaring we were there and feasted on dark chocolate almond bark to celebrate. As the afternoon clouds rolled in, we lay back and watched the mountains disappear above our heads. The cheers and squeals of more trekkers arriving filled the air as it began to snow.

It may not have been the top, but it was nonetheless a spot where most people on the planet will never set foot. I feel so lucky to have stood in that very special place, and, as I always do at the end of a hike, I feel so strong knowing it was my own two feet that got me there. □



This April 13th, 2019 photo, provided by Molly Sprayregen, depicts a herd of Dzo (a yak/cattle crossbreed) along the Everest Base Camp Trek in Nepal.

Associated Press